CELEBRATING THE DIVERSITY OF GENDER EXPRESSION

Issue #81 Winter 1997

Transgender Tapestry

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Riki Anne Wilchins
On GenderPAC,
TG Lobby Day, ENDA, Passing

WHEN CROSSDRESSING IS A CRIME

TRANSGENDER IN EUROPE

TG Lobby Day: A Pictorial

LEGAL GENDER CHANGE WITHOUT SURGERY

Love and the Spouses of Crossdressers

Laurie Auffant, TG Chaplain

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JEAN MARIE: AT IFGE

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Lesley Gordon, a happily married transvestite, has authored a fine book on crossdressing and most of its related issues. Aspects of Gender *stands out! It is meaningful to both transvestites themselves trying to come to terms with their conditions and the general public without any knowledge at all of the subject. Gordon's division of Behavioral/Environmental Origins and Biological Origins are well written and very sensible ways to begin his first few chapters. Needs and desires of transvestites and transsexuals are fairly described, as are the ranges of reactions good, bad, fair, unfair and many in between from the rest of the world. Pros and cons regarding telling, not telling partners, family members, and close fiends are well presented. There is a fairly good chapter on how to: select feminine clothing, shoes, walking, hair, basic makeup and cosmetic steps, and many of the considerations critical if one is to go out in public crossdressed. A very fine book written with seriousness.*
New York Girls Newsletter

"Crossdressing (transvestitism)," writes Leslie Gordon, "is superficially a simple matter of persons of one sex wearing clothing traditionally worn by the other. It is in fact, however, quite a complex form of behavior. Thousands of people from all walks of life engage in it in one form or another. Its origins derive from a number of different roots and individuals crossdress for many different reasons. There are psychological and social aspects which have an important bearing on the CD's behavior and the CD's own view of self as well as society's view of the CD and, of particular importance, the relationship between the CD and his close associates, be they spouse, partner, colleagues or friends.

"It is to try to shed light on these various aspects of crossdressing that this book is written. The subject is discussed, also the multitude of questions and problems which trouble those concerned with crossdressing—questions raised not only by the CD but by spouses, partners, family and colleagues. Finally, for those who seek information on the subject as partners of a CD, as social workers or as counselors, I hope that this book, along with the information on my own personal life, will provide at least the basis for understanding and tolerance."

Among *Aspects of Gender*'s fascinating chapters are: What is a Transvestite/Crossdresser?; Origins of the Transgender Personality; The Satisfaction of a Fantasy, Sources of Hostility; To Tell Partner or Not?; Learning to Live with Each Other; The Transvestite as a Woman, Looking Good ~ Feeling Good; The Transvestite & The Law; Help & Advice for the Transvestite.

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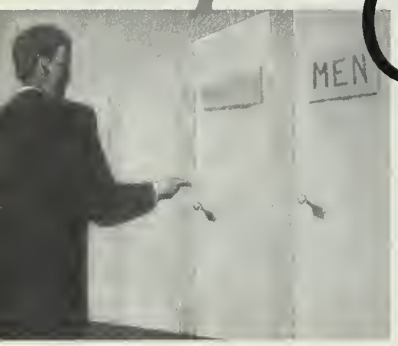

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Chloe, Kim and Eva pose on the New York docks for photographer Mariette Pathy Allen during filming of *Transexual Menace* documentary.

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What Is The International Foundation For Gender Education

The International Foundation for Gender Education is the largest non-profit organization serving the transgendered community. This community is comprised of crossdressers, transsexuals, gender-benders, anyone who does not identify with traditional gender roles, and all who support freedom of gender expression. Crossing social, economic, political, and philosophical lines, IFGE's constituents are bound together by a common desire to freely explore and express their gender identities by transcending gender norms. The community consists of a growing network of over 300 local, regional, and national support organizations ranging from informal support groups to non-profit organizations, and publishers of gender-related material.

IFGE goals include:

To educate members of the TG community, the general public, media, and elected officials on crossdressing, transgender, and transsexual issues;
To educate medical, psychological, and psychiatric health-care professionals and other care providers about TG facts, needs, and special issues;
To monitor legislation that affects the TG community;
To provide legal back-up and/or referrals for victims of discrimination;
To provide outreach and referrals for individuals and organizations within the TG community.

IFGE services include:

Mailings of event and product information gratis for other non-profit groups in the TG community;
Telephone hot-line with direct access twelve hours a day;
Referral list of organizations and health-care providers around the world that can assist TG individuals in making contact with resources in their area;
On-going communication with community leaders and assistance to those leaders to help provide better local service and programs;
A communications network designed to accept and distribute information about activities, programs, educational and support services, and potential threats against community members from legislative repression;
Workshops for professionals;
Library, resource center, and archive open to the public;
Funding for various research, educational, and community projects;
Financial and/or strategic support for the Congress of Transgendered Organizations (CTO), the New Women's Conference, the Spouse/Partners International Conference for Education (SPICE), the International Conference for Transgendered Law & Employment Policy (ICTLEP), the International Congress on Crossdressing, Sex & Gender, FTM Interntional;
Outreach to organizations of helping-professionals such as the American Psychiatric Association (APA), the American Association of Sex Educators Counselors and Therapists (AASECT), and the National Association of Social Workers (NASW);
Annual IFGE convention, building a strong and effective community through educational seminars and social events;
Producing and distributing educational video, audio, and printed materials covering the complete spectrum of transgender issues;
Publication of *Transgender Tapestry*, the largest circulation of any periodical in the TG world, provides a forum for informative articles on gender and related matters. For many people it provides initial contact with the transgender community;
Tapestry Journal, a monthly magazine on the World Wide Web;
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Dear Gianna:

Gianna E. Israel

Letters from TGs

Dear Gianna:

I completely disagree with the notion of therapists standing in the way of transgenders getting hormones. It seems ridiculous that grown ups cannot walk into a doctor's office because you and your colleagues monopolize and stereotype people with the HBIGDA Standards of Care. I am a crossdresser and work as a male. However, I also live as a girl during the evenings and weekends. I want to take hormones. However, my local gender therapist said that crossdressers can't take hormones because they are not interested in having sexual reassignment surgery. Can you please provide me a referral to a doctor who will see patients for hormones without requiring a therapist's letter?

Jean R.
Wisconson

Dear Jean:

As I am both a transgender woman and a care provider, I can appreciate the writer's questions and concerns. No one wants unnecessary interference in their lives, and to that end I receive a great many letters stating similar sentiments. Moreover, I recognize that many good people in our community feel hostility toward therapists for good reason. While there are many ethical, dedicated care providers, there also still remains a segment of therapists who are misinformed, prejudiced and treat transgender men and women in a denigrating fashion.

It is also important to recognize that many physicians still perceive gender and crossdressing issues as a mental health issue. Furthermore, physicians do not receive specialized training in how to administer hormones to the different types of transgender men and women. During this era of "specialists," physicians often refer to specialists when they encounter procedures they do not understand. Doctors need to be educated that hormone administration is a routine medical procedure. Also, transgender persons need to be aware that gender specialists may not be up-to-date on all the advances in providing care to transgender persons. Therefore, it behooves transgender men and women to keep informed about advances which affect them.

The previous letter indicates that the writer actually lives in role as a member of the opposite gender on a part-time basis. Clearly, that person's needs have advanced beyond that of a traditional crossdresser. In fact, so many people now live in role part time, these persons often self-identify as "transgenderists." The persons typically ask for hormones, yet are not interested in surgery or living out transsexual or crossdresser stereotypes. As a distinct sub-population within the transgender community, these individuals should not be denied the same self-determination rights extended to other transgender persons. This includes hormone administration.

Dear Gianna:

I am so tired of my crossdressing urges. My wife found out, my employer found out, even my son living on the other side of the country found out, yet none seem bothered. I feel horribly worried because the feelings just come and go and never seem to stabilize. I'm happy being a man. However, nearly four or five times each day I begin thinking about wearing silk panties, nylons and a provocative red dress. When this happens, I can't get the thought out of my mind. I become aroused and my problem won't go away. I can barely eat, sleep or work when this occurs. I'm only able to make these desires go away after I masturbate. After I finish, I look in the mirror to see a disgraceful example of a man wearing a dress. Please help!

Marvin X
Los Angeles, California

Dear Marvin:

Eroticism can play a large role for many crossdressers, particularly with persons who have fetishes. Coming to terms with the fact that variation in sexual expression is part of human diversity is often a difficult process. This is so because society portrays erotic behavior and fetishism as forbidden or deviant. People who crossdress for sexual release often will feel guilty. However guilt also often feeds the excitement of erotic fantasies. Crossdressers who feel guilty about their behavior need to determine what role guilt plays in their fantasies. Is the guilt something worth resolving? Or, does the guilt feed the fantasy? And, is it possible to pursue the fantasy without feeling guilty?

Many crossdressers worry that their behavior is obsessive. Actually deciding whether that behavior is obsessive depends on the situation. If the crossdressing is continually interrupting a person's sleep, eating habits, employment or relationships, then it should be apparent he or she is obsessed. In such a circumstance I would suggest the individual seek professional counseling in order to deal with obsessive patterns. Crossdressing and fetishistic eroticism can also be healthy. I encourage clients to enjoy this interesting twist on life. However, remember that too much of a good thing isn't healthy.

I feel it is important to address the author's statement that after masturbating he looked in the mirror and felt ashamed. I have heard this statement on numerous occasions, sometimes from people who actually are obsessed, and feel guilty because of their inability to control their actions. Other times, I hear it from crossdressers who have no reason to feel ashamed. If guilt plays a role in feeding a pleasurable fantasy, enjoy it. Otherwise, learn how to deal with guilty feelings. Then, crossdressing will be all the more enjoyable. Lastly, I like to remind crossdressers that in part the guilt they may feel often serves as a trigger providing confirmation of the person's true gender identity. After all, imagine what would happen after crossdressing if the crossdresser had no choice but to remain dressed as a member of the opposite gender.

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(Gianna E. Israel is a gender-specializing counselor. In private practice, she provides nationwide telephone consultation, individual and relationship counseling, evaluations, and referrals. She is also principal author of Recommended Guidelines for Transgender Care, *a founding AEGIS board member and an HBIGDA member. She may be contacted at (415) 558-8058, by writing to P.O. Box 424447, San Francisco, CA 94142. On the Internet at Http://members.aol.com/msgianna/transgender.html. She receives e-mail at Gianna@wco.com.)*

It's Time For Your Medicine:

STANDARDS OF CARE

Sheila Kirk, M.D.

The Second International Congress for Sex and Gender Issues took place in Philadelphia a few months ago. Like the first Congress, it was thought-provoking and stimulating. The conference was a coming together in discussion and profound sharing of professionals—some transgendered, some not—along with community members and others. The information exchanged, the variety of topics, the expertise of the presenters and their audiences, and the discussions between both were striking.

No other conference in the transgender calendar comes near to the International Congress for Sex and Gender Issues in spirit or in prestige. These were three days of memories.

I leave reporting other aspects of the conference to others. Here, I want to concentrate on one presentation only, one that carried with it a vigor and an impact not often experienced. I want to tell you about the very last presentation of the conference—a plenary session given by Dr. Stephen Levine, the chairperson of a committee studying revision of the Harry Benjamin Standards of Care criteria for transsexual health care: psychological, medical and surgical.

This committee has been working for over a year now, and will finally report their recommendations at the Harry Benjamin convention taking place in Vancouver this September. Dr. Levine quipped, "We have revised our revisions eight times already." He said that after this conference, with the lively commentary and opinion from the largely TG audience, there would likely be a 9th and a 10th revision before presenting the final recommendations.

Despite the disagreements with the proposed revisions offered by many attendees, the presentation was orderly and very controlled. It was not the Third World War some have reported. And it was very clear that the committee, composed of professionals who work with and for the transgendered community, were a very intelligent and dedicated group who were trying very hard to formulate standards that professionals and clients can live and work with. It was obvious that the committee, through Dr. Levine's presentation at this conference, wanted to test some of the new concepts and techniques they are applying to the Standards of Care. They seek earnestly to put into motion a set of guidelines that would help professionals in their diagnosis and management of the transsexual person and benefit the TS as each moves toward their special and personal goal. I stress "special and personal" because the underlying current with the Standards of Care was always to facilitate the patient/client—to assist and to support them in their own unique journey.

Some convention attendees failed to understand that this was the goal. It was evident that many TGs do not realize that standards of care exist in all aspects of health management—no matter what the psychological, medical or surgical specialty. Many transsexuals do not know or care to understand that the cardinal rule all health care providers are bound by is this mandate: Do No Harm.

To abide by this, to protect from harm and to provide a benefit or good, is the principle every health-care provider must embrace. It's unfortunate that some providers have forgotten that mandate. They have lost sight of the regulation to help without harm. Hence, some are very poor in their performance, whether it be counseling, monitoring one's physical health, or changing the anatomy. If for only this reason, guidelines are very necessary. And for the professional who feels strongly the responsibility to proceed with a patient/client problem correctly, the guidelines are equally important.

There are many in the T-community who are not always accepting of guidelines, believing that they are or will be restrictive or compromising. For them, these guidelines are a must. While some believe they are the best ones to make decisions for themselves, this very often is not true. We are not our own best therapists. We often don't know what is best in the medical and surgical care of our bodies. We are not the experts that we believe we are. And even when we are absolutely correct in our self-assessment, we need the experience, knowledge and support of professionals who will be our life lines, our advisors, our oak tree when life gets a little too rough and our plans are not proceeding as we intended them to.

Another important point to understand is that the revisions are truly guidelines and professionals know that they are not bound rigidly by these criteria. They have latitude, the clinical situations they encounter and their experience in management are primary. The Standards of Care criteria are secondary considerations in many instances.

The newly revised Harry Benjamin criteria will be ready for presentation to the members of that association soon, and then, if ratified, they will be made known to us all. Are they necessary? Yes, very much so! Are they important to us? Without doubt! They should not be regarded as casual or opportunistic or prohibitive.

Our energies should not be turned to frustrate our own progress, or to confront the professional who earnestly wants to help. If anything, because we have the support of so many capable and interested psychologists, social workers, and physicians, we should work with them and they with us to achieve the very best in care.

In fact, our energies would be better expended in supporting the medical research to make transgendered medical care optimal. While there is research in progress, there is need for so much more. Your support of that work is vital. Do you know that there is legislation pending in Congress to protect individuals who have a genetic diagnosis, and legislation that will protect their insurance status and make it illegal to deny benefits to those with genetic alteration or diagnosis? Think about this. If the TG person really has a genetic or biological reason for being TG, then such legislation will be protective and make it such that insurance coverage must be granted. Could that benefit all those who need that assistance in payment of their care? Indeed it can! Wouldn't it be reasonable for all of us to assist those seeking to establish that knowledge as facts rather than find problems with those who work to help us? Think about it.

(Sheila Kirk, MD, is a transgender medicine specialist, board-certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology, HBIGDA & AASECT member, and the author of several best-selling books on medical care of the transgendered. As IFGE's Director of Medical Liaison and Research, Dr. Kirk provides international and national consultations and referrals to the TG community and to health care professionals who assist in their care. Dr. Kirk can be reached at (412) 781-1092, by writing P.O. Box 38114, Blawnox PA 15238-8114 or by e-mail at SheilaKirk@aol.com.)

Legal Briefs:

What National Transgender Lobby Day Means to You!

Dana Priesing

National Transgender Lobby Days 1997 were held on May 5 and 6, 1997, in Washington, D.C. In terms of your legal rights as a TG person, you may be interested in knowing who attended, what the goal was, what was achieved.

WHO ATTENDED?

Over 60 TG folks showed up. Attendees hailed from the following states: California, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, Washington and West Virginia.

WHAT WAS THE GOAL?

To identify congress members (House and Senate) most likely to be sympathetic to TG issues. We used the most current list of congressional sponsors of the Employment Non Discrimination Act (ENDA). ENDA is a bill that would outlaw job bias based on sexual-orientation (protecting gays, lesbians, and bis, but not TGs), which is seen as an issue of "gender-orientation").

During the preparatory meetings on Sunday evening, we urged attendees to place less emphasis on visiting their state delegation's representatives than during previous transgender lobbying efforts. While it may be emotionally satisfying to joust with one's socially conservative representative, we felt the time would be put to more constructive use in informing sympathetic members of congress about our concerns.

Trans inclusion in ENDA, as the bill covers sexual-orientation but not gender-difference, was one of our prime concerns. During the preparatory sessions, attendees were briefed concerning the issues surrounding ENDA advocacy, particularly the controversy over whether a bill including gender-difference would be more or less likely to pass. Attendees who wished to talk to congressional representatives about this issue were given copies of the gender-inclusive language drafted last year by Prof. Chai Feldblum and several activists.

Another theme for this year's event was hate crimes against TGs. The corresponding "show and tell" prop for attendees to use was GenderPAC's recently-released violence survey, which reveals a frightening level of violence is directed at TG people. We wanted sympathetic congresspeople to add their names to a draft letter addressed to the Attorney General, to be presented at a May 13 meeting at the Department of Justice discussing hate crimes. We asked attendees to determine who, among the staff they visited, would commit to discuss the letter with the representative or senator for whom the staff member worked.

WHAT WAS ACHIEVED?

Ultimately, four separate letters concerning TG hate crimes were sent to the Attorney General by our congressional representatives. The congress persons who championed our cause—and to whom we owe much gratitude—were: Ed Towns (10th Dist. NY), who was the first signatory; Maurice Hinchey (26th Dist. NY); Ronald Dellums (9th Dist. CA); Carolyn Maloney (14th Dist. NY); Melvin Watt (12th Dist. NC); Bruce Vento (4th Dist. MN); Jerrold Nadler (8th Dist. NY); Barney Frank (4th Dist. MA); Jesse Jackson, Jr. (2nd Dist. IL); and William Clay (1st Dist. MO).

The meeting with the Department of Justice during the following week went extremely well. Representatives of GenderPAC, Transgender Officers Protect and Serve, BiNet, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and Human Rights Campaign Fund met with Assistant U.S. Attorney General A.G. Acheson of the Office of Policy Development and her staff for about 1.5 hours. We argued that "transgender" and "bisexual" are means of self-identification that are coming into wider use, and consequently hate crimes against people who so identify doubtless will increase. We asserted that these hate crimes are essentially gender-based (i.e., they are attacks on "gender difference"), and should be handled as such. We presented the violence survey and, while noting that DOJ currently lacks investigatory and prosecutorial jurisdiction for sexual-orientation and gender-based hate crimes, offered OPD a number of suggestions about how to identify and respond to these incidents as they occur. It was extremely valuable, as part of this meeting, that we were able to present to Ms. Acheson the four letters from congressional representatives underscoring the seriousness of the problem.

In short, TG Lobby Days 1997 was an outstanding success. It was a gas to see dozens of crossdressers in the Rayburn House Office Building. When we are seen walking the halls of power, others are forced to reexamine their stereotypes about us. More importantly, however, this event achieved a definite milestone. For the first time, members of Congress have made official public statements using the word "transgender" in a positive light.

We encourage all of you to join us in early May next year in Washington, D.C. for Transgender Lobby Days 1998.

(Dana Priesing, JD, serves as GenderPAC's Congressional Advocacy Coordinator. Ms. Priesing can be reached via this magazine or at 733 15th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005; (202) 347 3024. E-mail Dpriesing@wronline.com.)

Interview:

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

RIKI ANNE

Riki Anne Wilchins set the TG world buzzing when *she entered the community a few years back with her "in your face" approach to securing transgender rights. In contrast, many community vets had taken a gradualist approach to achieving trans-acceptance in society, hoping that as TGs became more visible, they would eventually become more tolerated. The youthful Riki Anne was coming from a background of effective gay and lesbian radical activism on the level of the Lesbian Avengers or Act Up. Community vets came from the 1940s and '50s, where magazines featuring even a mention of TG could be confiscated by the government and those found crossdressed were summarily jailed. Riki Anne created the Transexual (her preferred spelling) Menace to hold public protests that would draw media attention to the more flagrant abuses against transgender individuals, notably the murders of Brandon Teena and Chanelle Pickett, and the death by criminal negligence of Deborah Forte. To those raised in an era when public visibility led to incarceration and oppression, her efforts seemed something that did more harm than good. The stage was set for miscommunication, conflict and controversy. But Riki Anne and many vets came to a meeting of the minds after her crowd-rousing exhortation at the 1995 Be All conference, in which she cited the toll of death, violence and discrimination against transfolk and pointed out the situation would continue ad infinitum unless TGs banded together to lobby local, state and national government for the same legal protections sexual and ethnic minorities have won. The result was the formation of GenderPAC, the national lobbying arm of the TG community. Its first Executive Director was, naturally, Riki Anne Wilchins. Initial efforts included the annual National Gender Lobbying Days in Washington, DC, and a survey of the violence directed against transpeople. Recently Transgender Editor-in-Chief, Jean Marie Stine, interviewed G-PAC's Executive Director about the organization's future, philosophy and long-term potential for survival. Riki Anne, who describes herself as "a lesbian or bisexual, transexual or transgender, man or woman living in Greenwich Village or New York City" (and is a multifaceted person, as Mariette Pathy Allen's accompanying photographs show), offered the kind of no-holds-barred commentary that has become her trademark style, winning her friends and enemies throughout the TG community. Riki Anne asked us to note that her hobbies include "the Transexual Menace, the Lesbian Avengers, attacking false binaries or any other political system which oppresses her or just really pisses me off." Her book,* Read My Lips! Sexual Subversion and the End of Gender, *is due from Firebrand in September 1997.*

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Transgender: .Some community members have questioned the long-term viability of GenderPAC. How would you respond?
Wilchins: This is what I love about the transgender community. When most people don't know stuff, they ask for information. In this community, when people don't know stuff, they make accusations, and then you're expected to refute them. So, my answer is that anybody who asks that question has maintained a careful ignorance about what's going on.

Transgender: So, what has G-PAC been doing this year?
Wilchins: An immense amount of work. It's been a banner year by any measurement. For example, completing the 1st National Survey on Trans Violence. Our efforts at the 2nd National Gender Lobbying Day, which got twelve congress members to sign a letter against trans violence—the first time anyone in congress has publicly signed on to anything trans-related. We also had a meeting with the Department of Justice, which came out of the bombing of an Atlanta TG bar, The Other Side. Then there is the recent victory with the National Organization for Women. After three years of effort, we persuaded them to pass a trans-inclusion resolution. G-PAC has also been included among the groups invited to the White House for the upcoming summit on Hate Crimes. Then, there's the PR we did with the intersex community, coming out against childhood intersex genital mutilation. That resulted in a half a page feature in the *New York Times*, and a three-page article in *Newsweek* that I personally placed myself as Executive Director of G-PAC.

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

Transgender: I take it then, that by your definition, you would consider intersex people to be transgendered too?
Wilchins: I don't have to ask myself that question. The motto of GP is "sexual and racial equality." That means, by definition, it is an organization which tries to represent the needs of anyone who is oppressed because of gender, affectational preference, or race. I have no problem viewing intersex genital mutilation as part of gender-based oppression,

Transgender: Some community members feel there are already large organizations lobbying for affectational and racial equality, and therefore money sent to GenderPAC should be focused primarily on TG issues. With such a wide mission statement how do you decide where to focus?

Wilchins: That question occurred right up front. The way we dealt with it was to develop a set of criteria for what kinds of issues we undertake. Otherwise, you end up duplicating other organizations' efforts. The criteria are: Is it something on which we can make a reasonable impact, given our resources? How many people are affected, and how deeply are they affected? Is anybody else working on it? By those criteria, I have no problem bumping something like intersex genital mutilation to the front of the line. Almost no one else is working on it. It affects thousands of kids every year who are cut up in American hospitals. Lastly, it's an issue on which we can make a substantial impact with our current resources.

Transgender: By these standards, you would say that the constituency that you're trying to help includes, but is larger than, just the TG community?
Wilchins: Well, I speak for myself here, not necessarily the whole board.

Transgender: Well you are GenderPAC's Executive Director. So, to what degree are you speaking for yourself and to what degree are you speaking for the policies that will be implemented?
Wilchins: Well, some of these are my own political positions. G-PAC itself was dedicated to gender, affectional and racial quality, to get away from identity-based politics, where an organization represents just transpeople and so on. Inevitably, if an organization is identity-based, you wind up with people saying to someone, "You don't belong, you're not our problem." TGs have been told that by everyone. The feminist organizations say, "You're not our problem." The gay and lesbian organizations say, "You're not our problem." I've seen where identity-based politics end up, and it's not someplace pleasant. The idea behind the work that I do is

WILCHINS

to get beyond identity politics and start looking at function, and the function that I wanted to focus on was gender-based oppression. So, I wasn't asking myself, "Who's my constituency?" I asked myself, "What kinds of social oppression am I trying to overturn or contest?" What this does is get G-PAC out of the issue that you brought up about intersex people, of having to argue, "Is this person a constituent or not?" and having to say, "No, I'm sorry, that's not our problem." Instead, I ask, "Is this related to g/a/r equality, and if so, is it an issue that we ought to take on, given our criteria and resources?" This is what's been called an "anti-foundationalist" approach to politics. It is based on the idea that you do not need an identity to represent. This is the idea that we presented to NOW, that they should stop worrying about who's a woman and instead start worrying about achieving feminist goals. These are the same arguments that I've made privately to the gay lobbying organization, the Human Rights Campaign Fund. "Stop worrying about whether gender is also part of sexual-orientation or vice versa. Look at the larger issue of oppression based on bodies and desire. There is an area where TGs and gays have a commonality." I know there's a stream of thought, which is popular in some quarters, of trying to define things as narrowly as possible and defend the borders. But to me, gender is about the oppression of bodies, and sexuality and desire. In my work with G-PAC, the idea is to get people to make connections, rather than to stress divisions. To build bridges, rather than to build boats. I hope that the TG-identified community has learned a lesson from the oppression we've suffered and the pain we've gone through. It's not enough just to get your own and to forget about everybody else. You have to take that suffering and you have to look at who else outside your community is suffering through similar things—someone that you might make common cause with. I hope that transfolk will realize that by joining other groups, by being willing to take the risk of being, yes, a little bit diffuse, we can grab hands across the political boundaries that divide us, gay from straight, lesbian from TS, TS from feminist. Maybe by working together, we can accomplish things that we couldn't do separately.

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

Transgender: Where's G-PAC headed over the next year or so? Can you truly take it to a national level, and is the TG community ready for it?

Wilchins: The financial support is not there yet. At the last major gender conference they collected 75 cents a person for G-PAC. I don't believe this community is ready to support a national movement, or maybe it's just not ready to support my version of a national movement. My own personal plan is to continue to try to diversify G-PAC, to reach out into other groups. We need to be addressing a constituency which does not yet exist, one which includes not just TG-identified people, but also feminists, who are gender-oppressed as well, and people of color, and gays and lesbians, bisexual people, and all those engaged in alternative sexual practices. There are a whole bunch of groups that are marginalized or discriminated against for approximately the same reasons, in very much the same way, as transfolk. There's a common cultural machine out there that tends to take groups and stigmatize them, push them out to the margins, and then flush them out the bottom economically. I don't think you can improve things simply by getting your own rights and then leaving the playing field. You have to dismantle the whole damn machine. I hope to build a broader constituency, a broader base movement, which is encompassing—because it's the only way to change that machine. G-PAC may be simply a very noble failure. Perhaps in ten years, we'll look back and say, "Gee, it was a nice idea, it didn't work." But, I believe its time has come.

Transgender: Some transpeople have expressed disappointment that G-PAC's efforts at this year's Lobby Days seemed to focus on violence against TGs, rather than inclusion in the Employment Non-Discrimination (ENDA), which is being promoted by a gay lobbying group, the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF). If, passed, ENDA would protect gays and lesbians—but not TGs—from arbitrary firings or other workplace discrimination due to sexual-orientation.

Wilchins: I don't know anybody there, myself included, who did not talk about ENDA and employment discrimination. We did not ask congress-people to vote for trans-inclusion in ENDA because I don't think that was the horse to ride. The horse that was running was hate crimes due to the terrible Deborah Forte verdict and the Atlanta bombing. What we achieved as a result was twelve congress-people signing on to a letter to Janet Reno, a meeting with the Department of Justice, and an invitation to the White House Hate Crimes conference. Would it be useful to have gender expression in ENDA? There's no question about it. It would,. Is that a viable possibility at the moment? It is not. In this community, we need to start thinking about what is possible and what is not possible. We polled ENDA sponsors and asked, "Would you support transgender inclusion in ENDA?" and, "What do you think that would do to the bill?" At the present time, most will not support it, and even the ones that support it, do so with visible reluctance because they think it will kill the bill. As one congressional supporter said to me off-the-record, "The moment you put gender-expression in this bill, it becomes the 'crossdressers will teach kindergarten kids act.' And that's the way it will be played on the house and senate floor." This is not like the local legislatures, where an individual state like Minnesota, or a city like Evanston, Illinois passes a pro-TG resolution. This is the US Congress. TG protection is not going to slide through. No one's going to wonder, "Gee, what

is gender expression?" They're going to nail this. Jesse Helms and Dick Army will rise up in the Senate and House, talking about what deviants and perverts TG people are, and how trans-protection in ENDA would give crossdressers the right to teach kindergarten, and teach the boys how to put on dresses. G-PAC would get requests from all 250 congressional supporters to "help fight this response." Right now, there's just Dana Priesing and me, and G-PAC doesn't even own a fax machine. The two of us alone cannot maintain a dialogue that has to go to 250 different offices. The resources are not there. The TG community has not stepped up to support this with numbers or money. You get 500 people at the Texas 'T' Party. But, we don't get 100 people to join us at Lobby Days on Capitol Hill. So far this year we have received a total of about $6,000 in donations. Without that support, if we put gender-expression in ENDA, it gets slaughtered, know what happens then? This community gets something that it doesn't want, and that is a crushing public defeat. It sets back freedom of gender expression in congress by ten or twenty years.

Transgender: We understand you have a new book coming out that expands on your personal and political philosophy.

Wilchins: The book is called *Read My Lips! Sexual Subversion and the End of Gender.* The book uses something I would call "applied postmodernism." It's an attempt to try to offer a set of terms for understanding whatever this is that we call "transgender." What I set out to do was to look at my experience and say, "OK, my body has been the subject of all kinds of debate. Whether I'm a man, or I'm a woman, or a third sex, or a surgically altered shemale, or some kind of freak, or an intersexual woman." Postmodernism looks at this debate and says, "Maybe it doesn't say anything about me, maybe it says something about the kind of knowledge that is applied to bodies. Maybe it's not that the body fails in the dialogue of sex. Maybe there's something wrong with the dialogue of sex itself, and that ought to be looked at." I started getting into it when I discovered all those postmodern thinkers, Michael Foucault and Judith Butler. I found a wealth of ideas that explain things to me which had hitherto been completely inexplicable. My book is an attempt to take those theories and to put them into common, everyday English that anyone with a high school education could understand, so they can grasp this set of tools, pick out what they want and use it to understand their own experience.

Transgender: For example?

Wilchins: I lay in bed every night for about ten years, and I would wonder, "Am I a man or am I a woman? What am I really?" There never seemed to be an answer. I would get into arguments with myself, "Well, I'm really a woman." Or, "Well, I'm someone who was a man and now I'm a woman." All this seemed to me to be a *cul-de-sac*. There was no way out. What postmodernism did was to say, "Look, instead of trying to resolve this issue, let's step up a level, and look at the political effects of making your body a subject of debate. What does that do to you?" It was like having the scales fall from my eyes, because what happens is, if a person's body is a problem, then we have to have discussion about it, we have to have controversy, we have to have expert testimony. People were being called in to decide and vote on what my body was. Medical experts, psychologists, feminists, lesbians were all voting on it, trying to decide what my body was. I was concerned with the same question. But then I started looking at the process, and thought, "Wait a minute, I'm being completely disempowered here. My voice is being erased. I never get to vote on them, but they are always voting on me."

Transgender: And what do you think are the worst of those effects?

Wilchins: People often ask me why I wear the Transexual Menace T-shirt, even when I'm not menace-trating. I believe the shirt reverses the cultural gaze. Transpeople are always being stared at by other people, and we join them at starting at us. Our bodies, our gestures, our gender are continuously the site of judgment and opinion. This is extremely disempowering. No one can enjoy walking around and living their life, if they are perpetually in a kind of defensive crouch, having to keep one eye on the mirror to see how they look and how they're being considered. The Menace T-shirt reverses that cultural gaze. When I wear it on the subway, instead of people staring at me and wondering what I am, they read the T-shirt and all of a sudden you can see that they get shocked. I end up staring at them and saying, "Look, this is who I am, and I'm not trying to hide it. Can you handle that?" Instead of them looking at me and me looking at me, we're now both looking at them. I found that extremely empowering. It gave me a chance to breathe, because when I see transpeople, what I see are people who feel radically disempowered, who are ashamed of their bodies, ashamed of what they are, afraid to come out, with good reason, afraid of violence, who often don't like the way they look, and often are extremely depressed about their social position. I think just helping people, like me, to get out of that and start to feel some sense of empowerment, is by itself one of the more radical things that you can do.

THE SECON TRANSGENDE

Up Close And Personal

Nancy Nangeroni

About 60 transgender activists from across the country traveled to Washington, DC for a concerted lobbying effort this past May. The Second Transgender Lobby Day, organized by GenderPAC executive director Riki Anne Wilchins, was more tightly focused in purpose than the first such event in October of 1995. That event celebrated the right of transgenders to walk the halls of Congress and engage in lobbying activities. This time, Riki and GenderPAC lobbyist Dana Priesing, working with the help of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) and the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), established clear goals for the effort. Our purpose: obtain signatures from Representatives and Senators on a letter to Attorney General Reno asking for an investigation by the Department of Justice into violence against transgender people.

Organizer and GenderPAC executive director Riki Anne Wilchins was very pleased with this May's efforts. "I thought it was incredible. It's been our goal for the last year and half to get someone to go on record against TG violence. We expected it to take three years, but we had such a phenomenal effort from our lobbying team." As a result of our lobbying effort, a dozen congresspeople signed a letter recognizing the intense discrimination against transgender people, and asking the Department of Justice to take action to investigate. Said Riki, "The letter wasn't just any letter, it was a letter to the Attorney General of the United States." What comes next? "Now that we've gotten some people to go on record, we can move on to other things, like ENDA (the Employment Non-Discrimination Act)."

Not every participant was completely satisfied with their experience. Mary Ann Harris enjoyed lobbying, but was expecting something a bit different than what happened. "I felt unhappy that I came out to lobby for ENDA and was told instead to lobby about hate crimes and to give up on ENDA." She blames HRC for transgender exclusion from the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, and claims that, "most of the TG activist community isn't that forgiving. They are outraged that people claiming to represent the entire TG community have told HRC that the TG community accepts forced exclusion from ENDA. Most of us

Photo:
Mariette Pathy Allen

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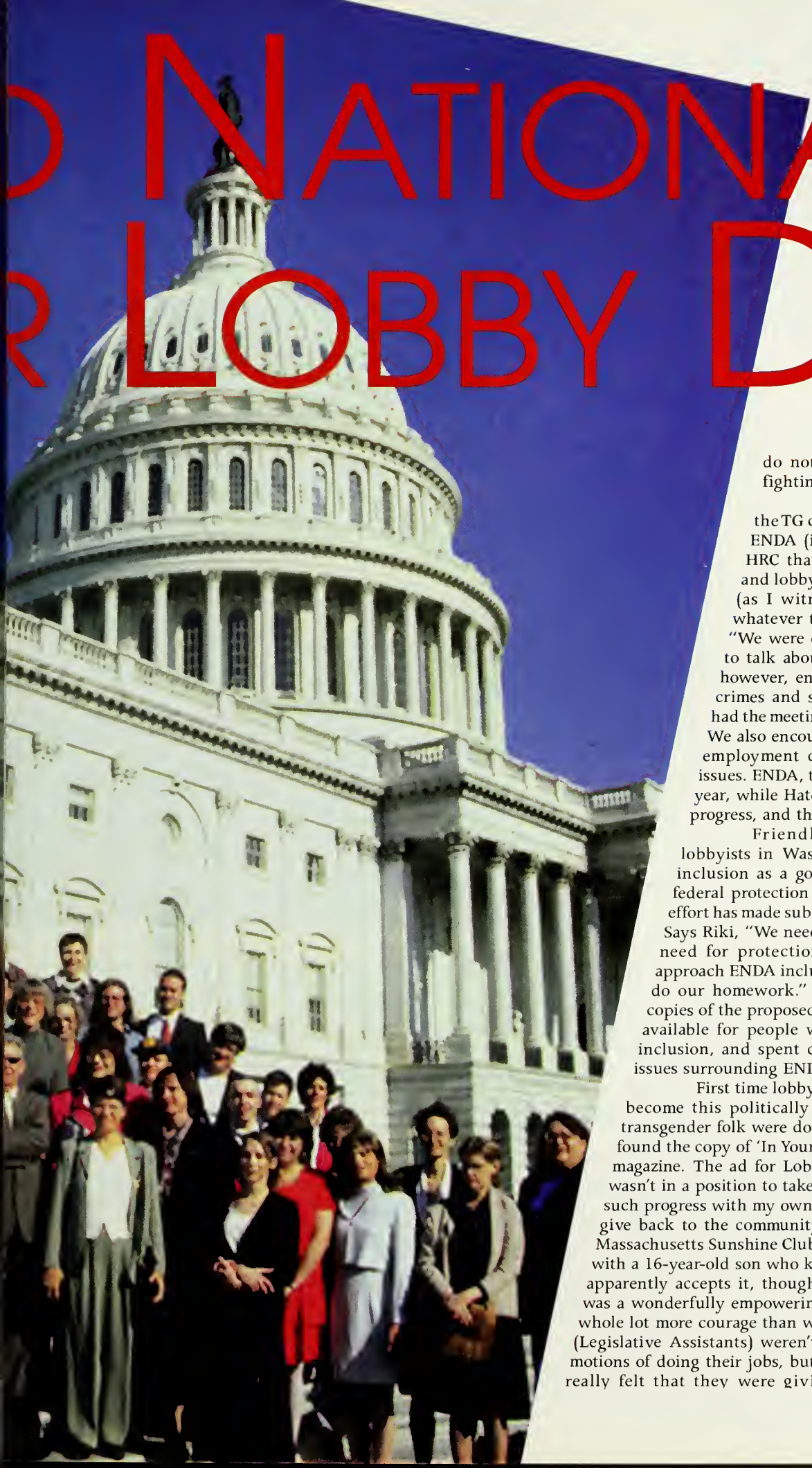

do not accept that exclusion and are fighting for inclusion."

In fact, HRC was not told that the TG community accepts exclusion from ENDA (it's been made painfully clear to HRC that there is substantial objection), and lobbyists were specifically encouraged (as I witnessed at the event) to discuss whatever they pleased. Confirms Wilchins, "We were careful to tell people that it's OK to talk about whatever they want. We did, however, encourage them to talk about hate crimes and signing onto the letter, since we had the meeting lined up with Janet Reno's staff. We also encouraged the lobbyists to talk about employment discrimination, as well as other issues. ENDA, though, is not going anyplace this year, while Hate Crimes inclusion is making real progress, and that drove our focus."

Friendly and knowledgeable GLB lobbyists in Washington suggested Hate Crimes inclusion as a good first step towards obtaining federal protection for transgenders, and this year's effort has made substantial progress towards that end. Says Riki, "We need proof that there is a substantial need for protection for transgenders in order to approach ENDA inclusion with credibility. We need to do our homework." Dana Priesing adds, "We made copies of the proposed ENDA TG-inclusion amendment available for people who wanted to lobby for ENDA inclusion, and spent considerable time discussing the issues surrounding ENDA inclusion."

First time lobbyist Penni Ashe never expected to become this politically active. "I first discovered that transgender folk were doing serious political work when I found the copy of 'In Your Face' included with *Transgender* magazine. The ad for Lobby Day '95 was appealing, but I wasn't in a position to take action then. Now that I've made such progress with my own self-acceptance, it's important to give back to the community." Penni first joined the central Massachusetts Sunshine Club in 1994. She is recently divorced with a 16-year-old son who knows of her transgenderism, and apparently accepts it, though he doesn't like it. "Lobby Day was a wonderfully empowering experience that left me with a whole lot more courage than when I arrived. I felt that the LAs (Legislative Assistants) weren't just simply going through the motions of doing their jobs, but that they really listened to us. I really felt that they were giving us respect. Thanks to that

Photo: Mariette Pathy

experience, I find myself feeling much more comfortable going to places where I would have felt uncomfortable before. I think everybody should do it. Plus, it's an opportunity to take advantage of one of the treasures of this country: the ability of ordinary citizens to talk directly with the people who make the laws."

Miranda Stevens of Chicago reported, "I was amazed at how accessible the offices were to us, amazed at the positive reception we got from some of the office staffs." Mary Ann Harris agreed. "What really amazed me is the cordial reception we were given in the offices. Even the Republicans were polite, seemed genuinely interested and concerned, and they listened. We were not harassed or ridiculed once, and being accepted like that really felt good."

Miranda, along with Tony Monzo, lobbied the Illinois congressional contingent. She had set up 8 or more appointments ahead of time, including both senatorial staffs. She made sure that they left each office with a copy of It's Time Illinois' Hate Crimes Report. "We spoke directly with congressman Jesse Jackson, Jr. (the son of the Reverend Jesse Jackson). We talked for 20 minutes or more. He knew exactly who the community was and what the issues were. He asked all the right questions, like aren't we covered by Title VII. Finally, he said 'What can I do for you?' When I said, 'Sign the letter.' Jesse said, 'Of course we'll do that.'" He later did, in fact, sign the letter. When Miranda then spoke to him about TG inclusion in ENDA, he was knowledgeable and frank. "The realities of the 105th congress are that this (ENDA transinclusion) will never fly," he said. But, according to Miranda, he went on to say, "You know, as long as one person in the US is denied his human rights, none of us can be truly free."

Miranda was impressed with the positive reception she received, as well as the level of knowledge of some of the people she met. When she was explaining transgenderism to Senator Durbin, he said, "You don't have to explain all that. I have a friend that is transgendered." Miranda credits two things with the success of the lobbying effort. "We had in-state statistics, and we had a simple, specific request. It was a very smart strategy." Flying back to Illinois, she found herself sitting next to a woman who asked, "I saw you in the halls, were you lobbying?" As it turned out, the woman had also been lobbying about women's issues, and was sympathetic to Miranda's cause.

Despite her discontent, Mary Ann Harris did enjoy some aspects of the lobbying effort. "Fifty trannies marching to the Metro, and onto the steps of the Capitol, was quite a sight to see. I want to see the group photo on the web! One of my fondest memories is when Penni and I randomly walked into Ron Dellums' office and asked to speak to the LA in charge of LGBT issues about ENDA. We were introduced to two people. One lady shook our hand as she rushed through to another meeting. The other fellow, Luis, explained, 'She's involved because she's labor, and me because I'm queer!' What followed was a half hour of the warmest conversation we've ever had. Luis is a gem, as is Dellums. Overall I enjoyed it. It was a lot of fun. I was surprised how easy it was to educate people, to show that we are not freaks and monsters, but we're real people, real taxpayers. I feel we really made a difference with every staffer we talked to." She expressed frustration with the limitations of what could be accomplished in a short time with limited numbers of people. "It became clear to me that we need more people lobbying more staffers. We need to cover all 535 reps and senators at least once, preferably multiple times."

Roz Blumenstein, another first timer, was very enthusiastic about her experience, though her perspective was a bit different. She works for

Manhattan's Lesbian and Gay Services Center, to which she is grateful for sending her to Lobby Day as part of her work. Referring to the group expedition on the Metro and congregation in the House cafeteria, she observed, "It was really interesting watching 60 people across the TG spectrum, watching people's reaction to us. Even if they had a reaction that was negative or unaccepting, they couldn't do anything because there were so many of us." Roz encourages transgender people to come out of the closet, saying, "The more of us that come out, the greater the chance that we'll change the whole system." She likes to go to the beach, and is tired of the attention she receives. "I wish I would see some of my sisters on this beach. I'm tired of being a commodity."

Her lobbying experience left her reflective. She sees a lot of our community's diversity in her work for the Center. "I saw how I've grown into being who I am. Five years ago it would have been difficult being with such diversity of transgender people because of my internalized transphobia. I would have wanted to be with TSs that blend, because of my shame about who I was. Being able to interact with all people on the TG spectrum and being comfortable with all people besides myself, it was really empowering. Definitely an amazing thing, and I would love to be able to do that more often."

Rox felt it was different being with TG folk in that setting. "I'd heard of many people who were there, and it was nice to meet them. I bring my own history, and it's nice to share it with others. But there were not enough people of color involved, and that's not OK with me. We need people across the cultural diversities of the transgender spectrum. They weren't visible, but they're alive and well all over the world, and they need to be there with us. Our lobbyists were very white, educated, and privileged. There's

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

nothing wrong with that, but that's not the whole spectrum, that's not all of us. We're not just working for acceptance that lasts only as long as we look proper and act a certain way. That's not what we're after."

She said it wasn't hard talking with the legislative assistants. "It was easy, but I'm not sure if they're just paid to be nice. Watching people's reaction in the lunchroom, sometimes it was annoying. It kicks up different things in me, pride, shame, embarrassment, a sense that we belong."

Roz was saddened by the split into two separate lobbying efforts this year. "Everyone in our community should read *Pedagogy of the Oppressed* by Paulo Friere. He writes about how the oppressed just keep fighting each other, and never move up because they're too busy fighting each other. We're too small a group to not stick together. And we have to come together with other queer people, because we'll never get anywhere if we don't."

As I helped in the lobbying effort, one congressional staffer made a similar point, when he asked me how I felt about ENDA passage without transgender inclusion. When he heard that I would not like to see the transgender community prevent anyone else from gaining protection against discrimination, he was visibly relieved." Another staffer expressed concern over the divisions within the transgender community made clear by divergent lobbying strategies. "If the transgender community presents disagreement about what direction to move, that will make progress very difficult."

(Nancy Nangeroni has written for Sojourner: the Women's Forum, Sche-Mail, Transexual News Telegraph, Parmour: the Magazine of Literary and Artistic Erotica, *and other publications. She hosts WMBR's GenderTalk, Wednesday nights on Boston radio.)*

My Most Vivid Recollection

My most vivid recollection from the lobbying experience comes from my visit to the office of Massachusetts Rep. Barney Frank. Not only is Frank an openly gay man who has been willing to take the lead on many issues of diversity, but his staff had already expressed a willingness to sign the letter to Janet Reno. However, at the time of our meeting, nobody had yet signed the letter, and it seemed like everybody was waiting for someone else to go first. I had already spoken with the staffs of several Massachusetts representatives, and they had all said they would sign on, but that they would not go first.

Nancy Buermeyer from HRC (Human Rights Campaign, the leading Gay/Lesbian lobbying agency, and target for much TG antagonism) accompanied Penni Ashe and me on the visit with Robert Raben, Barney Frank's legislative assistant on gay and lesbian issues. We were greeted warmly by another assistant, a woman who seemed to know Nancy B. well. She was expecting the transgender contingent, and conducted us to Raben's office, where we waited a minute or two for its owner.

Robert Raben arrived within a few minutes, and greeted us politely. He then proceeded to hold court, seemingly enjoying his position of relative power as the gateway to the federal government's most influential openly gay member. Raben and Nancy B. seemed to know each other well, and had clearly discussed this matter many times previously. I listened carefully while he caught us up on his perspective, then I set about asking what it would take to get Barney Frank's signature on a letter to the Department of Justice. He told us what he didn't like about the wording of the proposed letter, and soon volunteered to draft a new letter for us, and to get Rep. Frank's signature on it, all in time for a press conference and demonstration at the sentencing of Chanelle Pickett's murderer (for assault and battery) in 10 days. His commitment seemed genuine, and a natural continuation of the negotiations between him and Nancy B.

We parted with a warm handshake, and mutual assurances of continued cooperation. The following week, in time for the demo, I received (byway of Riki Anne Wilchins and Dana Priesing of GenderPAC) a copy of a letter to Janet Reno signed by Barney Frank, citing the Chanelle Pickett case and calling for the Dept. of Justice to begin an investigation into the continuing pattern of harassment and violence against TG persons.

Nancy Nangeroni

IT'S ONLY NATURAL

fiction
Raven Kaldera

It could happen to you!

Illustration: Mykael Hawley

"So, I see you're fluent in Excel," the interviewer mused, flipping the sheets of my thick resume. If it had come attached to any other body, I'm sure he wouldn't be going over these points again and again, but I am what I am, and there's no way around it.

"Quicken, too," I added. "And I've worked with Foxpro, and Peachtree, and my MBA's from Stanford, and I've been a CPA for eleven years." It was all down on my resume, but I hoped the verbal reinforcement would help.

"I see." He glanced up at me, gaze flicking from my tailored burgundy wool suit to my matching flats. I found I was pleating a bit of my skirt between my fingers and forced myself to fold my hands in my lap. "Tell me again about your, er, condition, Miss...ah...Miss Knight."

I need this job, I need this job, I recited in my head to keep from sighing and rolling my eyes. "I'm a transsexual; I've been transitioned for five years, and I've held jobs during all that time." Rotten ones, but I didn't need to tell him that. I'd fallen from a sixty thousand-a-year job to working for little more than a quarter of that, and the small company that had put up with me had finally folded. In spite of all that, I'd made a commitment to be out about what I was. It was as much a matter of practicality as of ethics. I didn't pass perfectly, and probably never would.

"I see," he said again, eyes still on my resume. "Do you sleep with men or women, Miss Knight?"

I need this job, I need this job, I kept repeating. "I don't see what that has to do with my qualifications..."I began.

He waved a hand. "I was just curious as to what you, well, do. I mean, you can't blame people for being curious. Do you still have a penis?"

My jaw clenched involuntarily. I pried it open long enough to say, "I'm sorry. Obviously you are not interested in hiring me, so I won't waste any more of your time." I snatched my resume out from under his

surprised fingers and escaped his office, and his smirk. I didn't want to leave him with my home phone number.

* * *

"It could have been worse," I said to my roommate Kevin as we dug up the string bean bed in the garden that afternoon. "One of the interviews I had last week ended with the guy asking me for sexual favors."

"Yeah, it's so unfair," he said, wiping his hand across his cheek and leaving a smear of earth on it. "Everyone kept telling me it would be easier to look for work as a guy, but they all seem to forget that employers expect a work history! You can't just have appeared out of nowhere, so you have to tell them."

I made a grumbling noise and dug into the earth with my spade. "What could go wrong next!" I muttered.

"Well, we put the tomatoes out too early and they're all dead," Kevin said sadly, cradling the last withered stub in his hands. "Who could have expected that late frost? Global warming, probably." He scratched his crisp black buzz cut, managing to get more dirt on his face. Kevin and I have been friends for a long time. We went to high school together, transitioned at the same time in 1992—I'd ended up as a lesbian and he'd turned out gay—and we both love gardening, anime, and the Righteous Brothers.

"Great. And I have interviews all week, and you have to work. It'll be days before we can start new seedlings. Oh, well. Tomorrow I throw caution to the winds and jump into the pot."

"You're going for the big one, then?"

"Yeah, what the hell? Might as well crash dramatically from a high place." Actually, it was my dream job, a management position with an investigative accounting firm just starting up. Seventy thousand a year plus benefits, the sort of thing I'd be a shoe-in for if I hadn't changed anything. I had absolutely no chance at it now, I knew that, but it was a kind of bravado move, a way of thumbing my nose at my bad luck.

"Well, good luck," Kevin grinned, giving me a pat and managing to share his dirt smears. "Knock 'em dead, girl."

"I will," I promised. "Or at least into the next dimension."

The next morning, while I waited at the bus stop, a whole pile of rubbish blew up and hit me in the face. I yelped and cursed, and then I noticed something bright red caught on my lapel. It was an unopened packet of tomato seed, no doubt thrown out by some harried gardener. Grabbing it to tuck into my pocket, I noticed the variety listed on the label: "Lady Luck Tomato."

* * *

"You're a what?" the uptight-looking man behind the desk in the severe black tie asked, staring at me as if I might explode on the spot. I chuckled to myself. Since I was never going to get this job anyway, I might as well have some fun with the interview.

"I'm a transsexual," I told him merrily. "Male-to-female, transitioned five years, and don't ask me about my groin, it's none of your business."

He turned a lovely shade of purple. "I've never—in my entire life—I've—I've-"

In for a penny, in for a pound. "Judging from your reaction, this company probably needs some transgender sensitivity training," I said easily. "If I'm hired, I can coordinate something."

He finally managed to choke a word out. "We'll...we'll call you," he said stiffly. I was almost laughing on the way out. It felt so free, so good not to care.

* * *

"What do you mean they want me back?" I nearly spilled my coffee on myself as Kevin read off the message. "You can't be serious! The guy nearly fainted!"

"Hey, I just take 'em down," he said, shrugging. "Second interview, that's what they said. Why would I lie?"

"Maybe there was some crazed millionaire with a videocam in the ceiling who liked my spiel, like in that Jodie Foster movie," I said sarcastically. "Oh, why not? After all, what have I got to lose?"

The little man who had interviewed me before let me in to his office again, but this time he greeted me warmly and pressed my hand. "How are you today, Miss Knight?" he sang out.

He'd better not be asking for a date, I said to myself grimly. "Fine," I said, noticing that he was wearing a bright yellow tie and seemed to bounce around the office. I seated myself in the glossy leather chair and watched him warily.

He seemed nervous, but cheery. "I wanted to thank you in person," he said, finally sitting down at his desk. "I got to thinking about you after you left last week."

Oh boy, here it comes. "About me?"

He smiled shyly. "About your courage, coming right in here and telling it out straight. I haven't done something like that in years. So I decided to."

"To...to tell what?" I wasn't following this.

He reached down under his desk and pulled out a pair of leopard-skinned high heels. My expression must have been completely frozen, because he flushed pink and stammered. "I, er, I was so inspired that I, er, went home and put on my best dress and told my wife about my, ah, hobby."

Oh. "How did it work out?" I asked tentatively.

He sighed. "She's divorcing me." Then he brightened. "But the kids were great! They're both teenagers now, and I guess teens today know so much more than when I was their age...Anyway, my daughter says she doesn't mind, she'll even go shopping with me, and my son said, 'It's OK, Dad, I'm gay, I understand drag queens, just don't expect me to call you Virginia Hamm, OK?'"

"That's great!" I managed to get a smile on my face.

"Anyhow, I'm afraid I also came out to several members of middle management," he said ruefully, "so I expect we'll be needing that sensitivity course you were talking about."

I swallowed. "What do you—do you mean? I mean, am I hired?" I was in shock. The little man was grinning widely at me.

He waved a spotted shoe in the air. "Why, of course! Hadn't I made that clear?"

"Er, no ... ah, I mean, thank you! Thank you so much!" I leaned forward over the desk to shake his hand. "You won't regret this, sir, I promise you." His hands were smaller than mine. Lucky sot.

"Welcome to our team," he said. "Of course, we'll probably have to choose a new team motto. 'Leave It to The Boys' just won't work now, I'm afraid."

I gave him my best imitation of a dazzling smile. "'Strength In Diversity,'" I said. "It's only natural."

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(Raven Kaldera's fiction has appeared in GenderFlex *and other Circlet Press anthologies.)*

WHEN CROSSDRE

And What You Can Do About It

Chris DiEdoardo

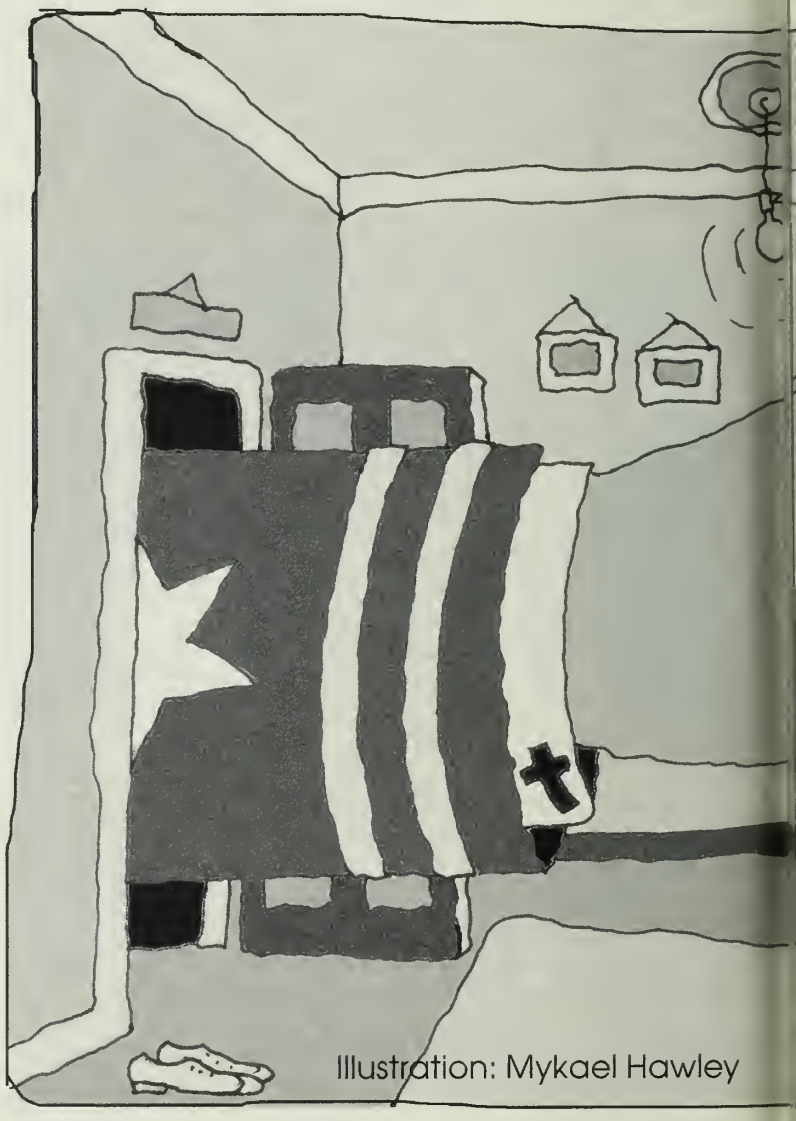
Illustration: Mykael Hawley

THE PROBLEM

Attempts by the narrow-minded and religious zealots to prosecute those who crossdress for what they choose to wear go back to the very early days of American jurisprudence. Usually, these laws weren't aimed specifically at the transgendered, but were laws against wearing disguises in public, designed to assist police in capturing those who donned disguises in the commission of crimes. However, in the absence of any other legal strictures against crossdressing, officious police officers used anti-masquerade laws as a pretext for arresting anyone who dared adopt the clothing of the opposite sex in public.

For example, in the 1912 Erie, NY, case of the People v. Luechini, Saviro Luechini was convicted of vagrancy because, according to the testimony of one police officer, he had "his face all painted up and this garb on" (pointing to women's) "and this wig on and slippers. . .in the lobby of the theater. . .in the view of the public."

At the time, New York's vagrancy statute defined a vagrant as, "A person who, having his face painted, discolored, covered or concealed, or being otherwise disguised, in a manner calculated to prevent his being identified, appears in a road or public highway, or in a field, lot, wood or (sic) enclosure."

Fortunately for Luechini, the county court reversed the conviction, finding that mere crossdressing or masquerading, was not enough to warrant a vagrancy prosecution unless the authorities could prove the defendant was supporting himself or herself via illegal acts.

The case of Garcia v. Texas a few years later produced a similar result, but not before the unoffending CD had been subjected to the public humiliation of being arrested and convicted. One Raoul Garcia had been convicted for violating the state's anti-mask law because he was wearing, "a woman's dress, high heel shoes, a brassiere with falsies, and a wig with rouge and lipstick on his face."

At the time, Texas law stated that, "If any person shall go into or near a public place masked, he or she shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction fined in any sum not exceeding $500 or imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding twelve months." (It's important to realize that at this time these laws were aimed not only at criminals, but at the Ku Klux Klan.)

Again, a more enlightened appeals court overturned the conviction. The grounds for this finding, according to the appellate courts, was that the law didn't apply to the facts at hand, as the arresting officer testified he had no problem recognizing Garcia in drag and thus there was no "masquerade." Presumably, if he hadn't "read" Garcia, there wouldn't have been a case, but in any event the conviction was overturned.

By this time, transphobic lawmakers across the country were busy drafting legislation specifically aimed at transvestites

SSING IS A CRIME

and transsexuals. But these laws were also facing legal challenges for the first time and in some cases, being struck down. The most frequently mentioned case in this vein is 1978's City of Chicago v. Wilson, in which a pre-operative transsexual was arrested under an ordinance that read, "Any person who shall appear in a public place...in a dress not belonging to his or her sex, with intent to conceal his or her sex...shall be fined not less than twenty dollars or not more than five hundred dollars for each offense." (Please note the subtle distinctions here. Under the law there's no need for the police to allege other criminal activity had occurred or was about to occur because of or in relation to the defendant being crossdressed. Merely being *present in public crossdressed was enough.)*

This is also an example of having the "right" plaintiffs can be critical to gaining the "right" result. The people who challenged the law were pre-operative transsexuals. The court noted that, "The city has asserted four reasons for the total ban against crossdressing in public: (1) to protect citizens from being misled or defrauded; (2) to aid in the description and detection of criminals; (3) to prevent crimes in washrooms and (4) to prevent inherently antisocial behavior which is contrary to the accepted norms of our society."

Since the defendants had been diagnosed as transsexuals and were living full-time in order to meet the Harry Benjamin Standards, the court held that, "The record, however, contains no evidence to support these reasons." The court also noted that it was strongly influenced in its decision by the fact that both plaintiffs were undergoing a medically-supervised transition. *Wilson* did not determine whether the city could prosecute crossdressers who ventured out in public for their own pleasure.

A more positive case took place a few hundred miles to the south of Chicago in the federal courts of St. Louis. In that case, D.C. and MS. v. City of St. Louis, two female impersonators were busted in a nightclub for violating the city's anti-crossdressing law, which read, "Any person who shall, in this city, appear in any public place in a state of nudity or in a dress not belonging to his or her sex or in an indecent or lewd dress, or shall make an indecent exposure of his or her person, or be guilty of an indecent or lewd act of behavior shall be guilty of a misdemeanor."

Although convicted in St. Louis court, the circuit court of appeal struck down the law as impermissibly vague, because a rapidly-changing society made the words "lewd" and "indecent" effectively meaningless.

Ironically, until the early 1960s, crossdressing in public was a crime in that den of rabid conservatism, San Francisco. In *The Mayor of Castro Street*, the late Randy Shilts described police harassment and what Jose Sarria, the founder of the Imperial Court system, did about it. "The police took to enforcing an archaic ordinance that forbade anyone from posing as a member of the opposite sex. Jose responded by simply getting the city's drag queens to pin to their dresses little slips of paper saying, "I am a boy." Once in court, police could hardly claim that a man with such a sign was seriously posing as a member of the opposite sex."

But more than 14 years earlier, one brave transvestite overturned Section 440 of the San Francisco Municipal Code in People v. James Arthur Lane. Section 440, written specifically to ban crossdressing, held in part that, "It shall be unlawful for any person to appear in public, with intent to deceive, in the dress, clothing or apparel not belonging to or usually worn by persons of his or her sex."

Although Lane was convicted, an appeals court struck down the conviction, and with it Section 440, in a decision that read as follows, "In its opinion, the court ruled that since the state of California had passed a law banning *any* person from wearing a disguise of any kind in order to evade detection in or after the commission of a public offense (Penal Code *185),* the city of San Francisco was preempted from passing laws in that area.

However, fashion crimes are still being punished in many U.S. cities. For example, San Diego, CA, passed its anti-

crossdressing legislation in 1966. But as you can see, and somewhat depressingly for our side, San Diego legislators have learned from San Francisco's experience. They were far more careful with the language of their ordinance, which holds that, "No person shall appear in a public place, or in a place open to public view, in apparel customarily worn by the opposite sex, with the intent to deceive another person for the purpose of committing an illegal act."

The law was purportedly passed as a result of testimony by the police department that it would help them "combat the practice of men dressing as women and robbing servicemen." Interestingly enough, however, newspaper accounts of the period are strangely bare of any accounts of transgendered anarchy or mayhem, whether directed at servicemen or otherwise.

The biggest problem with most of these laws is the last clause ". . .with the intent to deceive another person for the purpose of committing an illegal act." Unfortunately, the judge of this intent is the cop on the beat.

And let's face it—unless you're doing "shockdrag," the "intent" usually is to look like the opposite sex, whether as part of pre-SRS therapy, or for personal enjoyment. The real clincher is the stipulation, ". . .for the purpose of committing an illegal act." Jaywalking is an "1llegal" act. So is running a red light. The difference is, if you do them while crossdressed in San Diego, and the cop is in a bad mood, you can be charged with a misdemeanor as well as a violation.

So, what is the actual effect of laws like this? In the fall of 1996, we obtained a summary of those charged with breaking the San Diego law since 1994. In just the two years covered, 52 people were arrested under this ordinance. The charge was dropped in 51 of those cases. In other words, in 96 percent of the cases, the police officer's time, as well as that of the district attorney's office, and all the taxpayer money involved, was wasted.

The Solution

When people are presumed to be criminals by the police because of subjective judgments about their appearance, it doesn't make for a pleasant interaction. If you have doubts about this, ask your average young African-American male in Compton or South Central. Or for that matter, Beverly Hills.

If there are ordinances against crossdressing in your state, county, or city, you have the power to change them. Here's what you can do to get the law changed.

When I was working on the anti-SDMC 56.19 effort with Bridget, it seemed the best vehicle for changing the law, given San Diego's extremely conservative political climate, was an attack on its constitutionality via a federal lawsuit.

One route to social change is working through elected officials. But there's an art and a science in doing that as well. If there's an ordinance that affects you in a negative way, the way to change it is not to march on city hall, torches in hand, no matter how satisfying that can be.

Instead:

Visit the city clerk's office and ask for the "backup" file on the ordinance. That will list the testimony the council used in making its decision to enact the law.

Find out which staff member covers your community for the council member.

Write him or her a polite but firm letter outlining your concerns and request a meeting. (Follow it up with a phone call if you don't hear from them.)

Go into the meeting with a small group of people who are willing to be professional, yet firm.

After the meeting, write a thank you note that summarizes the discussion.

Remember, politicians respond to two things: money and votes. We don't necessarily have a lot of the former but all it takes to exercise the latter is showing up on election day.

In conclusion, I'll leave you with the words of Kemal Ataturk, the founder of modern Turkey, on the opening of his country's first independent law school: "The greatest and at the same time the most insidious enemies of the revolutionaries are rotten laws and their decrepit upholders... It is our purpose to create completely new laws and thus to tear up the very foundations of the old legal system."

In that spirit, I call upon you to become educated about the laws that affect you and have the courage and the grace to change them. In the words of my friend and guru, Riki Wilchins, "Confront with love."

(Chris DiEdoardo is a paralegal working in California, and the GenderPAC Legal Affairs Coordinator.)

Orlando's Sleep

an autobiography of gender

by Jennifer Spry

"As more stories of our transgendered lives enter culture, the pathway to acceptance and integration widens. Jennifer Spry's Orlando's Sleep is sure to open closed eyes and melt cold hearts."

-Kate Bornstein, author of Gender Outlaw

John Spry, born in Melbourne, Australia in the 1940's, looked to be just like other boys, but inside, he felt anything but boylike. When his parents went out, he snuck into his mother's doset and tried on her clothes, to see himself as the girl he believed he really was.

Playing rugby, drinking with the boys, even getting married and having a child failed to change his perception that he was trapped in the wrong body. Finally, while living in the States, John began to come to terms with these irrepressible feelings, and underwent an operation to become a woman.

Jennifer Spry went home to Australia, as a woman and a lesbian, to make peace with her family and her past, and to create a new community as an out transgendered person. A touchingly personal exploration of gender identity.

Jennifer Spry lives in Melbourne, Australia where she works in promotion. She recently won the 1996 Short Story Prize from the Fellowship of Australian Writers, and the 1996 Judah Waten National Story Prize.

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News and Notes from the Gender Frontier

TRANS-ACTIONS

Nancy R. Nangeroni

NATIONAL

TS MINISTER AT ODDS WITH PRESBYTARIANS

In the northwest corner of Georgia, a Presbyterian ministry has revoked the ordination of one of its ministers, Carla Pridgen, at least in part because she is transsexual. Cherokee Presbyterian ministry is a part of the Presbyterian Church, USA, and serves an area roughly from Marietta to Ft. Oglethorpe. This decision came after a previous decision by Cherokee Presbytery to place Carla on the inactive roll of ministers was overturned by the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of South Atlanta. It is anticipated that an appeal will be filed in this case.

NEW ENDA, LESS NOT MORE, GENDER COVERAGE

To the surprise of nobody who has been paying attention, the Human Rights Campaign reintroduced the Employment Non-Discrimination Bill (ENDA) without including coverage for gender expression or identity. In many parts of the transgender community, the news was greeted negatively and vocally. New Orleans activists publicly threatened to boycott area HRC fund-raisers unless the organization makes strides toward becoming more trans-inclusive. Similar conflicts arose in Philadelphia and elsewhere, even though ENDA is not likely to pass congress any time soon, and transgender lobbyists are making solid progress in other areas which will likely serve as a precursor for ENDA-type protections.

THINK TANK ADVOCATES "AVERSION THERAPY" FOR TRANS

Endorsing abusive attempts to change gender-variant children, the conservative, fundamentalist-oriented American Public Philosophy Institute, opposing the findings of both the American Psychiatric Association and the American Psychological Association, claims gays and lesbians suffer from "gender disturbances" and an "infantile refusal to accept reality." According to *The San Francisco Chronicle*, 350 people attended a recent conference of the conservative "intellectuals," whose purpose was to understand homosexuality "as a tragic affliction, with harmful consequences for both individuals and society..." Panelist Joseph Nicolosi was quoted as saying that homosexuals engage in "a narcissistic refusal to accept a gendered world and the human biological reality on which that world is based." South Carolina Medical School professor George Rekers said that lesbians tend to be tomboys in childhood, preferring "masculine" toys and demonstrating, "a distinct dislike for doll play and other female activities." Male homosexuals show the opposite pattern, "preferring the company of girls and wanting to wear lipstick and dresses." He maintains that "gender disturbance" can be corrected by therapy during childhood, and uses his substantial National Institute of Mental Health funding to promote and apply "aversion therapies."

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN ACCEPTS TG WOMEN

After several years of internal debate prompted by TG lob bying efforts, the National Or ganization for Women (NOW) finally passed a resolution accepting transwomen as NOW members. The successful vote followed personal support by NOW President Patricia Ireland, NJ President Bear Atwood and Lesbian Rights Coordinator Kim Ward. After passing NOW-NJ's State Conference in 1994, the resolution was introduced at the 1995 National Conference, where a dozen gender activists in Menace T-shirts collected signatures supporting the measure. Despite overwhelming support, the measure was tabled to the National Board, where it languished for the next 2 years. Eventually, though, determined effort by GenderPAC and other groups, with inside support from Ms. Atwood, yielded fruit. Unfortunately (in this reporter's eyes), the resolution's integrity (and credibility) is corrupted by the statement "BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that we acknowledge that gender is a patriarchal social construct used to oppress women." Apparently NOW remains rooted in a victim position, blaming men for all gender oppressions while ignoring women's collusion in enforcing the two-gender system (not to mention the devaluing of men's lives).

NLGLA ADDS BIS AND TRANS

In August, the Board of Directors of the National Lesbian and Gay Law Association (NLGLA) voted unani mously to affirm bisexual and transgender incorporation in its by-laws. The inclusion vote followed years of work by TG lawyers from ICTLEP, including NLGLA Board membership by JoAnna McNamara, Phyllis Frye, and Dee McKellar. In 1995, the Board unanimously resolved that transgenders should be included in the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) and other lesbian/gay ordinances around the nation. Early this year, Phyllis Frye introduced the Bi/TG inclusion proposal, which was ultimately considered not a changing of by-laws, but instead a more complete and inclusive definition of the original by-laws. As in the Minnesota statute, the lesbian and gay community was redefined to be diverse and to include, but not be limited to, lesbians, gay men, bisexual and transgendered people.

IS TG MARRIAGE SAME SEX MARRIAGE?

A child custody battle in California between an FTM transgender father and his estrangedwife could hold so bering implications for all postops. Transman Joshua Vecchione's fight to continue co-parenting his daughter is being challenged not because he is incapable of parenting, but because he underwent sex-reassignment surgery. Vecchione transitioned in 1976, and has been honest about being transgender with both of his former wives. Kristie Vecchione, who is suing Joshua for sole custody of their daughter, says that their marriage was never valid. Her claim is that since Joshua was once a woman, their union violated California's same-sex marriage ban, and that Joshua is not entitled to joint custody of his daughter.

TS BUSINESSWOMAN IN 90210 ATTACK

The transsexual head of a firm that claims to be the world's largest adult entertainment and mail-order company says she was handcuffed and brutally attacked in Beverly Hills last May by six security guards at the Peninsula Hotel. In a statement to Beverly Hills police officers who broke up the attack, Terri Nicole Hess, CEO of California's DechTar, says the guards accused her of assaulting them. But Hess denies initiating the attack, which she says occurred because she used the ladies' room. According to the July 8 issue of *The Advocate*, a spokesperson for the hotel, a luxurious, exclusive facility that prides itself on being a safe, discreet getaway for movie stars and high-powered executives, refused comment and denied any knowledge of the accusations. Hess is quoted as saying: "While I am saddened by the whole affair, I will not take this kind of discriminatory abuse passively." Hess was reported to be planning to file suit against the guards and the hotel.

ACTIVISTS PROTEST TS PRISON ABUSE

In Washington state this past July, a small group of activists demonstrated on the front steps of the Walla Walla County Superior Courthouse on be half of an incarcerated transsexual. Their intention was to alert the public about abuses of TG prisoners in the Washington state prison system. The case which inspired the action was that of Crystal Schwenk, an MTF TS who has accused a corrections officer of sexual assault. Demonstrators handed out flyers detailing Crystal's abuse, her pending lawsuit against the Department Of Corrections, and the abuse of transgender prisoners in general. Public response to the action was positive. One person, after reading a flier, told of his own abuse by prison guards. Others expressed outrage that the offending guard is still employed by the Department Of Corrections. The protest was organized by Ashley Sinclaire of The Jasmine Foundation (541-757-3689, ashley@pioneer.net) dedicated to helping transgender prisoners. The Jasmine Foundation gets many letters from transsexuals in prison who say they're being sexually abused and deprived of medical care. Crystal's case underscores the problem, and challenges the widespread presumption that such abuse is inflicted primarily by other inmates. The news that this sexual abuse is perhaps most often inflicted by prison officials inspires many observers with a genuine sympathy for the victim.

IOWA PRODUCES EDUCATIONAL TG VIDEO

According to the June 23 issue of *The Advocate*, Iowa City is producing a video designed to promote adherence by local businesses to the city's transgender anti-discrimination ordinance. Aimed at educating business people about interacting with crossdressers and transsexuals, the video production effort is supported by a budget of $1450, and was scheduled for completion in August.

CAMBRIDGE SEEKS TG EMPLOYEES

City personnel management of Cambridge, Massachusetts contacted the producer of trans gender talk show *GenderTalk* to ask that Cambridge City job openings be aired on the program. Questioned by the program's host, Employment Manager Ralph Elwell confirmed that transgender employees would be welcomed as applicants to the city workforce. For more information, call Cambridge City Hall at 617-349-4332 and ask for job information.

CONGRESS-PERSON BADMOUTHS TG WORKER

In June, Cliff Stearns, a Republican member of the US House of Representatives from Florida, wrote a letter to the Florida State Senate and House chairs. Sterns claims to have written the missive "in response to numerous complaints from constituents," urging that State Health Care Administration employee Sabrina Robb be dismissed because she was TG. Robb, an MTF transgender, is a 43-year-old U.S. Air Force veteran formerly known as Dale. Congressman Stearns labeled Robb's behavior "appalling" and "deviant." Oddly for someone entrusted with seeing that government works efficiently, Stearns admitted there was "zero noticeable change in the job performance of Ms. Raab (sic) since his selection of women's clothing." Stearns' justification for the complaint consisted entirely of the philosophy that state government employees should conform to a set standard of appearance, and that "those who fail to comply should feel free to seek employment elsewhere." According to the *Orlando Sentinel*, Robb's bosses are standing up for her. They report that they haven't received any complaints from co-workers or the public. Spokeswoman Colleen David said, "The agency, as an employer, has the responsibility to protect the personal rights of all its employees and to maintain a professional and productive workplace. We are doing just that." The article quotes Robb on her manner of dress, "I consider myself a professional, and I would not dress any other way but professionally. I'm dressed conservatively, not provocatively." A coworker, though, reportedly said that several employees in the small office building are uncomfortable, not with Robb's style, but with the whole idea of a "man dressing as a woman."

TS ENTERS MYRTLE BEACH COUNCIL RACE

Campaigning on a platform of diversity and change, 30-year-old African-American TS Sharon Franklin Brown plans to run for one of the seven Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, City Council seats. Brown says she became involved with the City Council last March when Councilman Mark McBride was quoted, in reference to a gay bar opening, as saying, "We don't want this garbage on the Boulevard," and, "I don't want to end up seeing transvestites and drag queens and people being led around on leashes in dog collars." After hearing McBride's remarks, Brown says she "went to the Council and voiced my opinion, and it led from there." She says she has attended every council meeting since the gay bar debate. Brown, who was fired from her job as a resident hall director in a women's dorm at North Carolina's Fayetteville State

University because of her transgender nature, was inspired by the incident to begin speaking out about the need to include gender identity and sexual orientation in non-discrimination policies. She says her gender identity has been a big issue in her campaign, and she has been frustrated by press reports calling her a "transvestite," a "cross-dresser," and "he."

JUDGE RULES TS NOT PROTECTED IN PA

In a Decision that sent apprehension running through Pennsylvania TGs, the state court has ruled that transsexuals do not enjoy protection from discrimination under existing disability law. The ruling comes from the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court, which affirmed that a person discriminated against because of his or her transsexual status is not protected by the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act (PHRA). According to *The Lesbian/Gay Law Notes*, Kristine Holt began a medically supervised transition from male to female in July 1992, which necessitated that she begin dressing and presenting herself as a woman. She was subsequently transferred to another office and fired for allegedly violating her employer's dress code. Holt filed a complaiant alleging that her firing violated PHRA, but the court ruled that Holt has no claim under the act. On appeal, the majority opinion upheld the trial court's decision, ruling that a person seeking protection under PHRA must demonstrate a physical or mental disability that substantially limits one or more of life's major activities, and that transsexualism does not fall within that definition. In dissent, Justice Collins suggested that Holt should be allowed to make a case that she falls within the class protected by PHRA, contending that transsexualism may be a physiological disorder that affects Holt's essential life activities and functions, which would make it a protected class under the PHRA.

LIFE SENTENCE FOR MURDERER OF TG

After a four-hour deliberation, a Fayetteville, Arkansas jury returned a life sentence against Yitzak Abba Marta, 21, for the beating and strangulation of Alan Fitzgerald Walker in November of 1996. "This was nothing more than a hate crime," Circuit Judge William Storey told Marta. "This person was killed because he was gay." According to Marta's testimony, he and Adam David Blackford met Walker outside a gay nightclub. Walker was crossdressed. It wasn't until they were undressing at Walker's home that Marta realized that Walker was physically male, or had "no more breasts, no more makeup, no more hair," as Marta put it. Marta claims to have laughed and left, while Blackford returned later and killed Walker (Blackford was also convicted of murder). Police came to the scene after neighbors noted Walker's absence. They found Walker's nude body inside the bedroom, with "KKK" in 2-foot letters written in blood near a closet door.

EVANSTON PASSES TG PROTECTION

Recently, the Evanston, Illinois City Council voted unanimously to make their city the latest to extend human rights protection to their transgendered residents and visitors. By adding transgendered individuals as a protected class to their Human Rights Ordinance, Evanston prohibits discrimination in employment, public accommodation and housing. The successful effort was spearheaded by Miranda Stevens, vice-chair of It's Time, Illinois! (ITI), working with Paula Haynes, Director of the Human Relations Commission in Evanston. The Commission unanimously endorsed ITI's suggestion that sexual orientation be defined in the Human Rights Ordinance as encompassing both affectional relationships and gender identity. In testimony before the City Council, Miranda Stevens explained who transgendered people are and why this protection is needed, saying, "For most of you, this is the first time you've encountered a transgendered person, outside of stereotypical caricatures on television or movies. We hope that by the end of the evening, we would have put a more human face on our community."

MILITARY ON TG WITCH HUNT

According to Tere Frederickson, an unnamed MTF transgender person has found herself caught in the maw of the military machine in San Antonio, Texas. Though recognized by state authorities as a woman, and identified as such by her birth certificate, driver's license, etc., as well as military psychiatrists who have cleared her for worldwide duty as a woman, she has been ordered by her commander to crossdress as a man in order to appear in public. It seems the commander takes exception to the idea of a woman with "a little extra." So he has placed her under virtual house arrest, unless she dons men's clothing. Meanwhile, the military has violated its own "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy by investigating her at length, asking a neighbor if she is gay, interviewing her pastor, and more. The bizarre action apparently results from the Military Personnel Headquarters' policy which classifies one's gender by the sole criteriON, "if you have one, you are one." According to Tere, "She is redefining gender in the military. She's a hero in our lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered struggle for equal rights and fair treatment."

INTERNATIONAL

NEW ZEALAND NIXES SRS PAYMENT

Reports indicate that MidlandHealth in Waikato, New Zealand, recently canceled three sex-change operations after realizing that no other regional public-health authority funds sex-reassignment surgery. According to the *New Zealand Herald*, Midland Health program director Alan Wilson explained that a sex-change operation is cosmetic surgery no different from a nose job.

U.K. TSs WIN EMPLOYMENT PROTECTION

An Employment Appeal Tribunal has ruled that transsexuals are protected by legislation that forbids discrimination on the basis of sex. The landmark ruling for the first time provides transsexuals with protection against discrimination under English law. According to *The Guardian*, "It is now unlawful to sack an employee for undergoing a sex change, to refuse to hire a transsexual on that ground alone, or to fail to prevent their harassment." The ruling resulted from the case of an amusement park rides technician who changed her sex after four years on the job. She was subsequently ostracized by co-workers and eventually dismissed on grounds of incompatability. This ruling follows the 1996 ruling by the European Court of Justice which held that transsexuals were protected from discrimination under European Community law.

(Nancy Nangeroni is the hostess of Boston radio's GenderTalk. *She can be reached care of this magazine or via e-mail at Nancy@GenderTalk.com or on the web at www.GenderTalk.com.)*

Transgender In Europe

A Survey:

Arie van der Ven

Transgender people in the United States are just beginning to lobby for, and in some localities, win increased protection under the law.

US activists can take heart from the European Court of Justice, which extended the European Union laws against sex discrimination in the workplace to transsexuals on the 30th of April, 1996. A British transsexual had taken her previous employer to court for firing her in 1992, when she expressed her wish for sex reassignment surgery. Transgender organizations throughout Europe hailed this inclusion of transgenders as a protected class within all member nations of the EU as a milestone victory.

However, this is not the first time the Courts of the European Union have been helpful in bringing about positive changes for TGs in member states. Since 1981, the court has forced France, Italy, and Germany to allow transsexuals to change the sex on their birth certificates and to marry in their new gender. Since then, most EU countries have followed suit, the hold-outs being Great Britain and Greece.

In spite of the progress made in the European Union states over the last ten years, the continent of Europe still houses some of the most liberal and most repressive countries in the world. Some countries, like the Czech Republic, can be sources of hope and inspiration, showing that change is really possible. Others, like the Netherlands, give us a peek at what may happen in the future if discrimination were to lose its defining power over us and doctors and TGs came too close. Countries like Turkey, however, continue to serve as reminders of how grueling our lives can become if TGs do not protect their rights.

What follows is a brief overview of the state of things TG on the European continent today.

WESTERN EUROPE

The situation in Western Europe for TGs makes clear the mixed blessings of socialized health care. In most EU countries, socialized health care means that all the psychological, hormonal and surgical treatment necessary for a sex change is free. This allows transsexuals to keep their life savings and lead a more normal life. (Before you start packing your bags you should realize that these services are only free for citizens of these countries.) However, the state also sets a budget for health care within which all medical disciplines compete for money. Professor Louis Gooren of the Amsterdam Gender Team in the Netherlands explains, "After another doctor asked me how much it costs to treat one transsexual, he wrote an article, saying he could treat 10 patients with glaucoma for the same money." To avoid overspending, doctors are subjected to strict budgets or bureaucratic controls, and often serve fewer clients than they would like. In a country like Sweden, many transsexuals have to wait for more than ten years before they can get a go ahead for surgery.

Transgenderists, who only want hormonal treatment but not surgery, do not fall into the official medical category of transsexuality and bureaucratic controls often deny them any treatment. This leads some transgenderists to pose as transsexuals, and some sympathetic doctors to purposefully misdiagnose the client so they can provide hormones. In fact, as one German expert confided, "Many European clinics have an external story of transsexuality and unbearable gender-dysphoria and an internal story of transgenderism. We really want people to explore all treatment possibilities."

For the first time in Europe, the Amsterdam Gender Team

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

will soon start experiments, openly treating non-transsexual transgenderists. Dr. Gooren says, "If treating transsexuals invokes discussions with colleges of other disciplines, openly treating people who explicitly say they do not fully want to switch to the other sex, is even more divisive. That is why we do it in a research format that will tell us the actual costs of opening up these services to a wider range of people."

However, the cozy relationship between TGs and their doctors in the Netherlands leads to an unexpected twist. Transgenders seem to have better relationships with their doctors then with each other! The activism and solidarity created by the difficulty and repression of US trans-people is near absent in the Netherlands. With expert help and relatively little discrimination in the workplace, trans people run from operation A to operation Z, disappearing in the woodwork afterward. Without repression, TGs seem to have little to share with each other. The Netherlands have the highest recorded ratio of TGs in Europe, and Amsterdam has eighty gay bars, but there is not one venue specifically for transgenders to gather.

EASTERN EUROPE

In order to qualify for membership in the cash-rich European Union, eastern European countries cannot maintain absolute bans on homosexuality. This led to a windfall of legal changes in the early 1990s, lifting the ban on g/l/b/t organizations and bringing an end to the time of lobotomies, forced mental treatment, and lifelong incarceration. However, these changes seldom reflect any popular tolerance. Unfortunately, the increased visibility of g/l/b/t people in the early 90s revived strong cultural homo- and transphobia. Opinion polls indicate that 20% of the Russian people believe homosexuals should be killed, 30% feel they should be arrested and 40% said they should undergo forced medical treatment. Meanwhile, 75% of Polish people surveyed wanted g/l/b/t people fired from the civil service. In the face of this hostility and a lack of financial resources, many of the g/l/b/t community groups have folded, leaving most of Eastern Europe with an expensive and highly commercial g/l/b/t scene, affordable only by the very rich. The remaining g/l/b/t groups set their hopes more on education than on legal change and are looking for a soft spot in the Russian Orthodox and Roman Catholic churches that are highly influential and often dominate the educational system here.

The happy exception to this bleak picture is the Czech Republic. It gives transsexuals the right to change their birth certificates and to marry in their new gender. Beautiful old Prague City Hall has become the scene of many same-sex commitment ceremonies. It has a very well developed g/l/b/t movement, called SOHO, with well run offices, even in small cities. Prague is probably the only city in the East where sexual minorities can live a lifestyle comparable to their Western counterparts. Jan Lany of SOHO explains, "Czech society is very tolerant because the Catholic church never has been very strong here. Job discrimination against transgenders is illegal and occurs less then elsewhere in Eastern Europe. There is no hassling by the police, and anti-gay and transgender violence is very low. Drag shows are very common, particularly in the Ustrilche Club, a 'favorite transgender hang out.' The Ustrilche Club's rich and open social life offers a flicker of nope on the dark side of this continent."

MEDITERRANEAN EUROPE

Transgender has an age-old and respectable place in most Mediterranean cultures. Gold- and silver-laden *zamel* in women's clothes have danced for centuries in busy Moroccan tea-houses, luring the men into their arms after their performance. In Italy they were called *femmenella*, in Spain *maricon*, in Portugal *veado*, and in Turkey *kockes*. In these cultures, TGs were often given a third sex status, and were not considered to be men or women.

In these cultures, men and women were kept far away from each other. A daughter could spoil the family's honor by merely having an innocent friendship with a boy. For centuries,

this strict division between the sexes, the taboo on homosexuality, and the *femmenella's* ambivalent gender status, defined the *femmenella's* place in society. Every gay establishment of the time, and many a brothel, had a TG matron with her transgendered girls and performers. This gave transpeople a livelihood, a social life and traditions completely of their own. Up until the early 80s in Naples, a public ceremony could be seen almost every month in which two *femmenellas* would engage in a mock-marriage, one dressed as a man. As long as they accepted their position at the fringe of society, the *femmenellas* were usually tolerated.

The livelihood and traditions of the *femmenellas* were slowly eaten away in Italy, Spain and Portugal, by ideas introduced from the North. Women's emancipation and sexual liberation made more young women sexually available outside marriage, and the gay movement made gay men turn towards each other rather than to *femenellas*. As more TGs identified as "transsexual" and "transgender," and as legal and social acceptance slowly increased, the worst of the economic effects on the TGs began to subside. Italy was one of the first countries in Europe to give transsexuals the right to change their birth-certificates and marry in their new role. In Spain, TGs can change their birth-certificates, and in Portugal, the Lisbon courts are leading other cities to do so. The Spanish high court is expected to decide in favor of granting transsexuals the right to marry. Greece, however, is still a long way away from taking these steps.

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

In Turkey, the idea of a homosexual identity has led to an erosion of the third sex status of the *kockes* and increased intolerance. Amnesty International reports show that state-persecution, rape and torture of all sexual minorities is quite normal in Turkey. Hosepipe Suleiman is the nickname of the chief of police in charge of cleaning up Istanbul's TG neighborhood, the Urgul district. A few TGs with a high political profile, like Demit Demir, have received extremely harsh treatment because they have tried to create civil and sexual rights organizations. She spent time in the worst Turkish prison of all, the one in which the original story of *Midnight Express* took place.

Paradoxically, in 1982, a Turkish law was passed allowing transsexuals to change their birth-certificates. According to Jenny Sand, a Norwegian transgender activist, this was one of the biggest jokes in TG jurisprudence. As Sand says, "In 1981, one of the most popular singers in Turkey, underwent sex reassignment surgery and came back as a female singer. When the authorities refused to change her name and birth certificate, she decided to stop singing unless the laws were altered, creating a government crisis all on her own. There was great popular support from her fans, and the Turkish Ministry of Justice finally succeeded in getting a new law drafted and passed, in a record time of four months, and the singer was heard again."

A TG TRAVEL GUIDE TO EUROPE

Giving travel advice to CDs is a great way to reinforce national stereotypes and give people a false sense of security. There is no travel guide to Europe for CDs and TSs. When passing through Europe, it is good to know that no country in Europe enforces specific laws against cross-dressing. But watch your step! Even the most tolerant cities have unsafe spots and even the most intolerant have their little safe havens. The best idea is to call a support group or gay switchboard in the area.

Grade A: Take a bike! The least violent and most tolerant parts of Europe are Scandinavia and the Netherlands. No policeman will blink an eye here when you ask for assistance. However, there are no good CD-clubs.

Grade B: Take a taxi! All the big cities in Western Europe are relatively safe during day time (on Oxford street they will simply be too embarrassed to say anything, as a London friend said). At night, TGs are a familiar sight in the Soho area in London (Madame Jojo's is a nostalgic step back in TG-time!), Kreuzberg's OranienstraBe in Berlin and the Paris-Marais area (not to mention the Place Pigalle or the Bois de Boulogne there ... if you want to turn a hobby into a career!). Munich, Cologne and Hamburg are more exciting other German cities and Birmingham has more to offer than Glasgow, Barcelona more than Madrid, and Rome more than Naples. Of course, we would love to hear from that Ulstriche Bar in Prague!

Grade C: Stay with friends! Small cities in Western Europe at night. Some cities in the east of Germany and in France have high unemployment amongst the young, making for more people looking for trouble.

Grade D: Know exactly where you are going! Eastern Europe is still a big no! Athens has some good clubs, but you can be caught for prostitution simply for wearing a dress. In Turkey, Bulgaria and Romania you may be arrested for corrupting moral standards, creating a scandal. In Budapest, two gay men only go out together when accompanied by two women, in order not to arouse suspicion. Just wonder what suspicion you may cause! And in Warsaw, St. Petersburg or Moscow, few people dare to go out after dark at all, even when not crossdressed.

A.V.D.V.B.

Scientists Examine The Invisible Trans

Cartoon: Scott Gerdes And Jean Marie Stine

Legal Gender Change Without Surgery

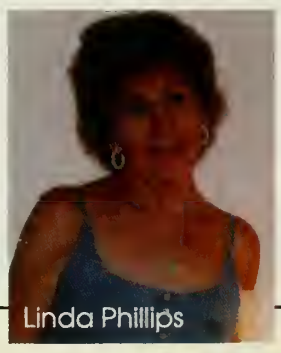
The Final Frontier

R. Scott Gerdes

Clutching a legal order for a name change, a twenty-something pre-operative, self-identified female-to-male transsexual (F2M) sporting blonde wisps of facial hair and a bound chest walked up to a Driver's License Bureau clerk in Des Moines, Iowa anticipating a hassle or, at the very least, a confused expression. He offered the documents and his current license. The gray-haired female clerk looked at the papers and then eyed at what she perceived to be a young male standing on the other side of the counter. She glanced down at his driver's license and again looked at the young man. While leaning in toward him with a finger pointed at the gender field on his license she quietly asked, "Shouldn't this be an 'M'?" Surprised, but quick to concur he answered, "Yes, it should."

Meanwhile, hundreds of miles south in Dallas, a sixty-something male-to-female transgenderist, with many years of hormone therapy behind her and no desire to have sex reassignment surgery (SRS), sat before a Texas District Court judge. Her attorney informed the judge that the gender classification on all of his client's legal documents had been incorrect since birth. The judge took a look at what he perceived to be an older woman who had survived living with a major typographical error. Without a clue that she had been born male, the judge leaned forward and in his most courtly, sympathetic and Southern manner, declared, "Mam, this must have been embarrassing for you to have lived with this mistake all those years." Then he turned to the court clerk, announced, "So ordered!" and all her legal documents were corrected.

There's a fresh, invigorating approach to legal gender status brewing in the gender community. If replicated, advocates say, it could legitimize the status of transgenderists (who elect to live in the social role opposite their anatomical sex but without having SRS), allow transsexuals to have the gender designation on birth certificates and other documents changed during the period when they have to live "full-time" before surgery, and take the pressure off both groups to have SRS simply to legally clarify one's gender status.



Linda Phillips

For transgender folk who live full-time, whether pre-, post- or non-op, changing the gender on one's birth certificate has always posed a problem. Since birth certificates are legal documents, the only agency legally empowered to change them is the courts. Until recently, the only justification most courts accepted for altering the original gender designation on your birth certificate was proof that you had successfully undergone sex reassignment surgery (SRS). And even then, some states and judges do not recognize SRS as changing one's gender, and will not grant requests to change birth certificates.

As long as the situation remains this way, charges TG attorney and activist Phyllis Frye, driv-

ing force behind the annual International Conferences on Transgender Law and Employment Policy, people who want to live full-time feel pressured into having "SRS by needing to get their documents together to get a job and live." Frye strongly believes that requiring reassignment surgery before someone can legally change their birth certificate to reflect their true gender deprives transpeople of the option of living full-time without surgery and almost forces many who might otherwise choose the transgenderist lifestyle to undergo SRS.

"We've got the cart before the horse," Frye states. "Until we can get the documentation changed before or without genital surgery, in my opinion, genital surgery is not an choice. Only, if we can get the documents done first does genital surgery truly become a choice."

It was the F2M community, Frye conceded, that brought this issue to her attention. Some non-surgical and post-operative F2Ms had confided in her that they were not *all* thrilled with either the surgical procedures they had undergone or with what the medical community had to offer. "Not only is the genital surgery unsatisfactory in many cases," Frye says, "but a hysterectomy is far more invasive than a mere orchiectomy. And if a F2M has been on male hormones for an extensive period of time their periods stop, and from what I've been told, the ovaries and womb tend to shrivel up. So why should they have to have a hysterectomy just to get their birth certificate changed? It's barbaric."

Armed with this thought, Frye has succeeded in having the gender designation changed on the birth certificates of several non-operative full-timers, including herself. Frye bases her case before the court on legal arguments advanced by New York State University Professor Lou Swats and others. When a child is born, they hold, a doctor looks at the new human's plumbing, and based on the assumption that the child will reach adulthood with mind and body in perfect harmony with their genitalia as presented at birth, and checks "F" or "M" on the birth certificate. This determination of which to check is, in the opinion of many gender activists, a mere prediction of the child's future gender. Many times, they say, that prediction is wrong, as, for example, in the case of an intersexual or transsexual. When this happens, Frye believes, the error on the birth certificate should be corrected legally through a court ordered revision of the person's legal documents. That SRS does not necessarily the transgender person make is the scenario Frye is drawing for the courts.

The three legal keys to this approach are appearance, irreversibility, and the cooperation of a physician. Since, again, most states require the court to intervene in these cases, the blessing from a reputable doctor is vital. Say you are transgendered, live full-time don't want SRS, haven't decided yet whether you do or don't, or are a pre-operative TS fulfilling the real life test requirement, and you go to an attorney for legal assistance in changing your birth certificate. Here are a few questions you should be prepared to answer: Are you in an appropriate gender change "program" with a reputable physician or clinic? Are you on hormone therapy? Are you living full-time as your true gender? Are you employed? Are you stable? All matters will be scrutinized carefully by your attorney, and by the judge as well. Your own personal presentation and attitude will also play a significant role in the outcome.

If a transgendered person fulfills these criteria, and can get a physician to provide a document stating that their body has been irreversibly altered by hormones, then Frye feels court ordered change of gender is more likely to be granted.

Irreversibility is a major key. This means being altered enough by hormones that if you had to stop taking them, you would need plastic surgery to pass again as your original anatomical gender. An example of irreversibility would be an F2M whose long term testosterone usage resulted in heavy beard growth, and for whatever reason had to forgo male hormones, would require years of extensive electrolysis to reverse the effects. Another example would be an M2F who would require breast reduction surgery to reverse the effects of estrogen.

About two years ago, Frye, a non-operative transgenderist, discussed her plans to seek a legal gender change with her own physician. He agreed to support her efforts. Frye then wrote a suggested draft of letter for her physician to provide the court. After making some changes, he happily signed it before a Notary.

Frye took the document to court, along with a petition in which she quoted the International Conference on Transgender Law and Employment Policy's (ICTLEP) Health Law Standards regarding the "irreversibility" of hormonal sex reassignment. She also cited Professor Swartz's argument that an "M" on a birth certificate is merely a prediction of the gender and does not necessarily mean that the person's brain sex will turn out to be male. Such certificates, Swartz holds, should be legally deemed as an "error in prediction" and "corrected without any special need for apology."

After reviewing Frye's materials, the court found in her favor, stating that her original birth certificate classifying her as male was a "non-negligent misstatement." The court therefore ordered that the certificate be corrected to read female. Throughout the process, the judge was fully aware of who Phyllis Frye was and that she was a non-surgical transsexual or transgenderist.

While this process may sound relatively easy, Frye warns that nothing is guaranteed. "It seemed to me like at that stage [fulfilling the requirements] I should have no trouble getting a person's legal gender changed. But I don't know how much the courts will or will not contest these requests because it's still new. It's all gray. I don't know yet what the final criteria are going to be. Should a F2M have to have gone through a hysterectomy and/or breast surgery first? I don't know. Should a M2F have to have had an orchiectomy (surgical removal of the testicles)? I don't know. The doctors and judges are going to have to decide that."

Linda Phillips, of the Boulton and Park society and a leading proponent of the transgenderist alternative, based her request for a gender change on an entirely different legal strategy, that could be successfully copied by any transgendered individual. In part, this approach is also based on the irrevocable changes to appearance that hormones produce over the years. One strength of the Phillips approach is that, when successful, it by-passes completely the need for documentation from a physician – or, indeed, any need to present your case as a change of your gender at all.

A nonTG friend put the bug in Phillips' ear. "I got the tip-off when I was talking to a girlfriend of mine about wanting to change my gender on my birth certificate. She remarked, 'My birth certificate has had male on it ever since I was born.' She said she had met two or three people that had mistakenly had the wrong gender placed on their birth certificate, and had to go to court to get it legally corrected."

Phillips consulted an attorney, who told her that he had corrected many instances in which people's birth certificates and

continued on page 39

My Life

The community's premiere still-photographer shares memories

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

Mariette Pathy Allen

I had never intended to work in films. A long time ago, I had experience in video. So, I know a little bit about it. For myself, as a way of doing art, I prefer to pick a moment out of time. I'm trying to find those decisive moments, the essence of a person in one image, rather than over hours. However, I like working as part of a team. There's no better team situation than working on a film. I like that, I welcome it. I feel it broadens my life and keeps me in contact with people in a different way.

In Film

of work on TG documentaries from *What Sex Am I?* to *The Transexual Menace*

I think I'll probably be working on another documentary. I don't really want to talk about it yet because it hasn't happened. Again, it's not my project. I'll probably be a consultant and photographer. But, I think from the point of view of my own work, I'll continue on being a still photographer, rather than switching to cinematography. Hopefully doing at least one more book, maybe more.

WHAT SEX AM I?

The first film I was involved in was Lee Grant's documentary What Sex Am I?, *made in 1984 for HBO. I was in such awe of her. It was my first experience with film. I was terrified. I just love her work and it was like a dream come true.*

But, it was also very scary. There were many restrictions. Ms. Grant had to look good. You couldn't photograph her if she was wearing her glasses, and she was always holding a Styrofoam cup, and there's nothing much uglier than a white, Styrofoam cup anyway. So, I would try to get pictures of her working, that's what they wanted, as well as of the subjects that she was shooting and, of course, trying not to be in anybody's way.

We had some amazing times. We went to see Christine Jorgensen and Steve Dain and people that I still know, people that I'm still friends with like Diahanna Pulido. Diahanna became one of the subjects I shot for my book, Transformations, *as are a few other people I meet on that shoot.*

Lee worked in a fairly formal way with an entourage: researcher, sound and camera people, her husband and an additional producer. She's a very intelligent woman but she had a researcher write up questions for her. Lee would sit there interviewing people, often reading the questions from cue cards (with her glasses on). She had it very well organized. Not to say that there was no spontaneity, you simply can't make a documentary without some spontaneity occurring.

And at the time my focus was really on crossdressers, and I could see that, generally, Lee and her staff were much less sympathetic to CDs than to transsexuals. I was worried that they would not do as well with CDs. I think the film does come across as more empathetic to TSs.

The second documentary I worked on was Down and Out in America, *also with Lee Grant. It focuses on the homeless, or near-homeless. Interestingly enough, a lot of* Down and Out in America, *was shot in the Midwest as well as in New York. I was more comfortable my second time around with Lee Grant, of course. But, again, it was a very difficult and a very nerve-racking film because we were dealing with people who in many cases, being homeless, were peripatetic. We spent a lot of time sitting in the car wondering if they'd show up, or what condition they would be in if they did show up, or if they'd be able to speak, or if we could gain access to the places where they lived or hung out.*

TRANSEXUAL MENACE

The third documentary I was involved in was Transexual Menace, *which was shot in this country for German and French television. My involvement in the film was a fluke, as most of my life has been. I was at a transgender health conference three years ago, and Rosa von Praunheim was there shooting. I did a slide show, and after the slide show, I noticed they were missing an extension cord. I lent them mine and it gave us an automatic tie. Rosa liked the slides he saw at my presentation and we decided we wanted to work together. We became part of each other's lives for quite a while.*

Photo: Marriette Pathy Allen

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

Rosa doesn't just make a film and then say, "Okay, good-bye everybody. I don't care about you anymore, I've got what I need." He goes on and maintains relationships with people. They stay friends over the years, like Eva Love, who has been to Germany to visit him twice. If he comes here, he comes by to see me. One of his great pleasures is giving parties and bringing people together. So, he's not a user in the way that most media people are. He's genuinely interested in people, and if he likes them, they stay in his life.

Let me tell you about Rosa and why he chose his name. Rosa is a gay man who has used this name since, I think, the early '70s. He was a pioneer in gay liberation in Germany and picked the name "Rosa" because it means "pink" in German and it signifies the pink triangle that the Nazis pinned on homosexuals. "Von Praunheim" means "from Praunheim" the district of Berlin where Rosa lives with his mother. Rosa's extraordinarily prolific. He is the author of about eight books and has directed over 50 films. He's in his mid-fifties and is an extremely handsome and engaging human being.

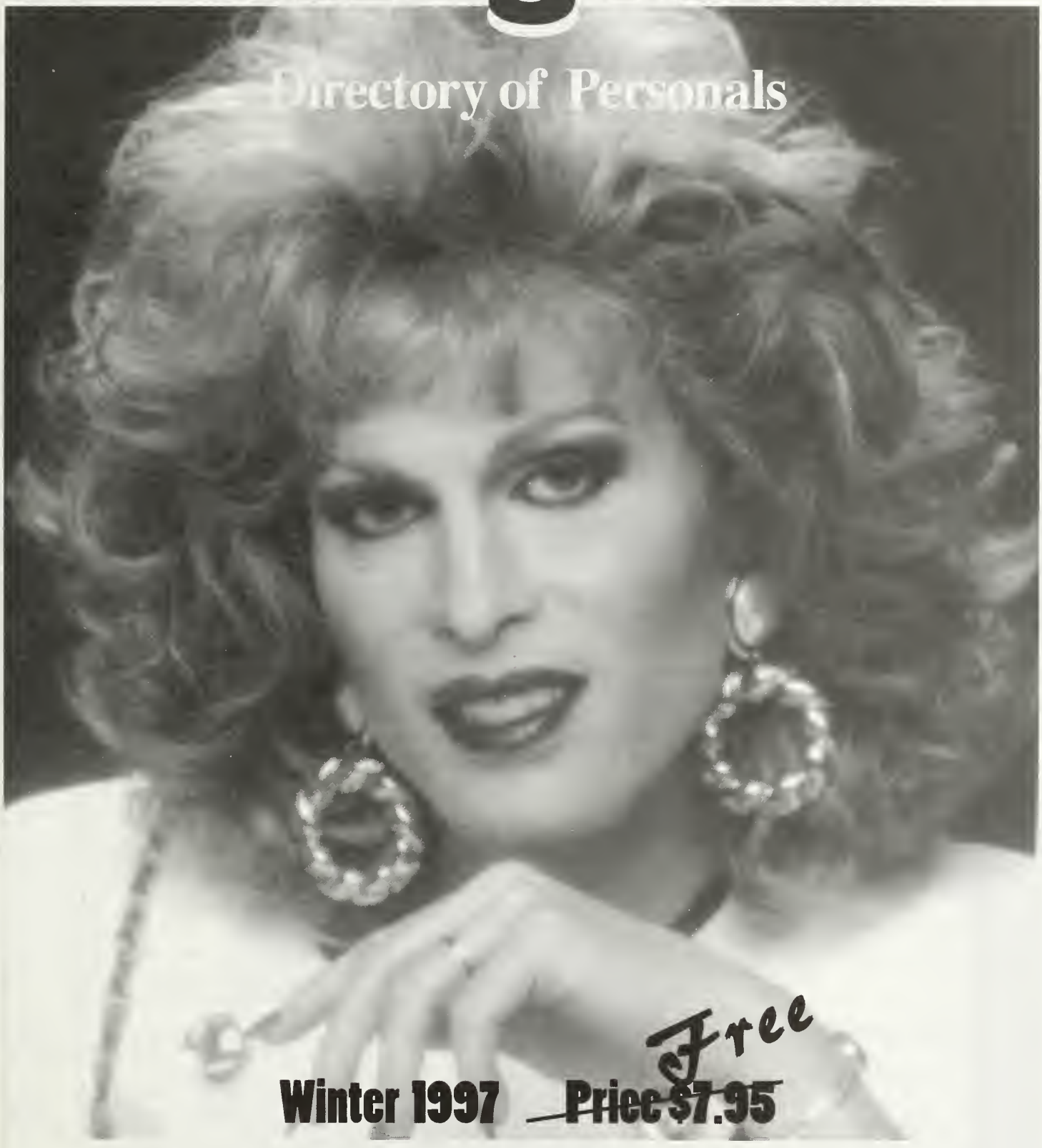
Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

Transsexual Menace *project chronicles the lives of TG people in the United States from many backgrounds and cultures. He came to Washington and shot people at the first Transgender Lobby Day. The demonstration for Tyra Hunter, who was left to die by paramedics when they discovered she was transgendered, is included in that part of the documentary. Rosa was moved by seeing people really making a change in history and taking control of their lives. He liked the name of the political action group, Transexual Menace (because it is a clever name, being a contradiction in terms). Because he included a lot of political material in the film, Rosa felt it would make a good title for his documentary.*

Rosa's style of working was on the one hand organized in that he had a huge chart that took up a whole wall, with every day's shooting schedule so he could see it months in advance. At the same time, having that kind of organization, he was very spontaneous. He would go very much with the flow. He generally did the interviews himself. Unlike Lee Grant, he didn't have scripted questions. He would come up with

Transgender

Directory of Personals



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IFGE depends on memberships for a significant portion of its income. If you have an interest in gender issues, *please join.* IFGE is a registered 501 (c)3 non-profit organization.
And our members receive special benefits like: a quarterly newsletter presenting news of IFGE and the community, voting privileges, and a 10% discount on IFGE books and the products of more than two dozen vendors.

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THE MAGAZINE FOR AND ABOUT THE GENDER COMMUNITY!

_____REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION (U.S.A., Puerto Rico) $40.00 ($55.00 1st class postage) Includes a subscription for four consecutive issues of the *Transgender Tapestry*, and a free personal listing for the duration of the subscription.

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All information given on this form is strictly confidential. *Transgender Tapestry* is mailed in a plain brown envelope.

Medical notes from Dr. Sheila Kirk, MD

Personal advice from therapist Gianna Eveling Israel

TG news & notes from Nancy Nangeroni

Legal views from Dana Presing, J.D.

TG personalities & performers
Book and video reviews

Crossdressing
TOPS
The growing female-to-male movement
Make-up and fashion
TGs in prison
How to pass
Transsexual surgery
TG and sci-fi
The transgenderist movement
Wives, spouses and significant others
TG conferences
Coming out
Civil rights and politics

TRANS PERSONALS

Where The Transgendered Community Meet.

OBJECTIVES of the PERSONAL LISTINGS:

1) To provide a means of introduction, outreach, and communication for subscribers to *Transgender Tapestry* and Supporters of I.F.G.E.
2) To provide readers with a source of support and communications.
3) To provide the general public with a better understanding of the nature of the people who are members and supporters of the Transgendered Community.

WHO MAY PLACE A LISTING:
To place a personal listing you must be an up-to-date General Subscriber (or an IFGE Supporting Member). As a subscriber, your personal listing is free of charge for the duration of your subscription. Also, your mail will be forwarded at no cost to you.

HOW TO PLACE A LISTING:
Fill out the form on the back of the subscription form. Please note that there is a limit of forty words for the text. Your ad may be edited for length and for taste. Please be discreet. No addresses will be published in the Personal Listings. The last number after your name is the last issue of *Transgender Tapestry* you will receive on your subscription.

If you send in a photo to be printed with your Personal Listing, we will keep it on file to ensure that it is available when and if we have more picture catastrophes the way we have lately. Your photo will NOT be returned.

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Please follow these intructions when answering an ad:
(A) Place your letter in an unstamped envelope.
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(C) Include $1.00 (for postage and handling) for each piece to be forwarded.
(D) Place the letters to be forwarded in another envelope & mail to:

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P.O. BOX 229
WALTHAM MA 02254-0229

REMARKS FROM THE PERSONAL LISTINGS EDITOR

If you give us o photo to keep on file, your picture gets bock in here o lot quicker if we hove onother computer snofu. Pleose use o ploin, controsting bockground: you will be more visible ond you will look better. When you get your renewal notice, oct fost. The deodline for the Personol Listings is only obout o month ofter the notice dote. Problems? Write: Trons-personols, IFGE, PO Box 229, Wolthom MA 02254-0229.

PUERTO RICO

VANESSA DIANE S
(PR-M5582-K12287-88)
DWM, Hisponic, 34, 5'12". bilinguol professionol. Closet CD (limited experience), very shy (live with conservotive porents), but oble to meet you and travel any time. Love sports (SCUBA), mokeup ond lingerie. Seek supportive GG (preferred) or TV/TS to help with my femininity. Must be discreet. Will onswer oll.

APO (090-)

MASSACHUSETTS

SUSANA
(MA-P-M0064-K0206-83)
Member Tiffony Club of New Englond. WM, 5'7", considered possoble. Interested in TV literoture & clothing.especiolly lingerie. Would like to correspond with others with similor interests.

JANICE H.
(E MA-P-M0254-K0109-88)
TCNE, Tri-Ess. Porticipont Fontosio Foir. DWM, 71, 5'6", 155, blue eyes, brown hoir. Go out os Jonice shopping, eoting ot restouronts, visiting other TVs. Moke friends, but om on the quiet side, write to mony other TVs. Will answer oll letters. Would like to toke hormones & live full time os o womon.

JUDITH ANNE THOMPSON
(E MA-P-M0733-K0229-83)
Member of IFGE and INNvestments. Widowed WMCD, 74, 5'9", 185. Retired, good listener, honest & intelligent Poss well. Like photography, soiling gordening, good music roising butterflies. Would like contoct with CDs in SE MA oreo.

MICHELLE WEST
(MA-M1486-K0842-83)
At 38, my lifelong delight in the expression of my femme self continues unoboted. But each possing yeor deepens my oworeness thot the true blessings of the tronsgendered ore inner: empathy, composion, toleronce, spirit, vision ond love.

JULIE WINSLOW
(MA-M1587-K0217-82)
MWM TG, 40. Member of INNvestments. Supportive wife to share weor with. Do not go out crossdressed except to meetings and such. Natural farmer, ortist, activist.

DIANA J.
(MA-M1999-K140-83)
Hove token hormones for 20 yeors, did electrolysis myself, TS in feelings. I hove bought merchondise for business as a womon. I love my femininity and olways look forward to the next doy os a lody.

ARLENE SUSAN L.
(MA-P-M1648-K0121-82)
MWM, hetero TV, 5'10", 205. Love dressing completely as a woman, going out in public and blending into the feminine world. Married; wife not supportive. Interested in TG friends who are sincere and have the same interests.

BONNIE F.
(MA-P-M2020-K2429-83)
WMTV, late 40s, 6', 165, size 14. Seeking new friends, TVs, women and sincere caring relationships with all genders. Music lover (blues/jazz), nonsmoker, explorer of TG spirituality, psychology of TV fantasies, feel of satin, swish of nylons against full petticoats, sensuality of slim skirts/lingerie.

FERN C.
(MA-P-M3596-K7623-86)
SbiTS, 6'1", 220, on hormones, seeking help in makeup. Also lookinfg for BFm, objective: Marriage.

JOYCE M.
(MA-M6058-K13198-82)
33, 5'10", post-op, thin, youthful and attractive. Long, brown hair, large brown eyes and fair skin. College educated, Catholic and open to other people's religious viewpoints. Variety of interests. Want to meet nice non-TV/TS, somewhat old-fashioned gentleman. Interested in being a full-time housewife.

BOBBIE SOKOLOWSKI
(MA-P-M3869-K426-82)
I'm Bobbie, attractive, clean TV, easy going, open, mature, warm, lonely, seeking a deep relationship with a very attractive, tall clean, fit non- or very light smoker/drinker bi-W female or TV/TS with same qualities. Let's meet together with our love of femininity. Berkshire County area. Photo/phone.

CAROLYNNE K. WEST
(MA-P-M4028-K5999-83)
TCNE, DAV, VFW, NALC. 5'5", 135, Narcissist, transcendentalist; cheerful feminine essence in a comportable masculine vessel. Interested in music, travel, homemaking, dressing & engaging public nearly 100%; offering discreet photography, modest bed & breakfast, & secure social interaction. Single, await the arrival of Prince Charming, irrespective of his gender.

PAULA B.
(W-MA-P-M5571-K1985-85)
Member of Sunshine Club. Would like to meet others in the life-style to share the great gift of transgenderism. Please write. Love to go out to eat and shop, the club scene, but no drinking or drugs. High on life.

MARYJANE B.
(MA-P-M5928-K8080-82)
SWM, 40, CD with TS tendencies. Passable but still chicken sometimes. Been going out for two years. Answer all letters; your photo gets mine. Want to meet TV/TSs and supportive GGs north of Boston. See you at Jacque's on Saturdays.

JOANNA O.
(MA-P-M5974-K8300-83)
SWM, Bi-TV, 30, 6'2", slim, closeted. Interested in writing, meeting other TVs to share all aspects of femininity. Have huge wardrobe. Will answer all who write.

CHRISTINE FROST
(MA-P-M6418-K14732-83)
Bi-CD, 5'9", 155. Like being a blonde, short dresses, sexy lingerie, and high heels. Would like to correspond and possibly meet others with similar interests. All letters welcome. Photo please.

RHODE ISLAND

VANESSA MURRAY
(RI-M4696-K10385-78)
48-year-old M CD in a wonderful relationship with enthusiastic lady. Mgr. of book sales for IFGE. Stop in to America's first transgender bookstore so we can meet and chat. My spouse and I send you peace and love.

ALISON LAING
(RI-P-M1242-K0733-99)
Co-Founder, past National Director Renaissance. Chairperson of the Outreach Institute of Gender Studies, Director Fantasia Fair '94, '95, Ms. Fantasia Fair '92. Mbr of AEGIS Board of Directors. Trinity Award 1994. Currently Executive Directr, IFGE. Interested in Native American traditions & community building as related to transgenderism. Love fine dining, good wine, art, crafts, antiques, theatre & travel.

ANDREA K.
(RI-M1771-K1934-83)
5'10", 170, brown eyes, long brown hair, semi-androgynous. Interested in Sci-Fi, investing, metaphysics, part-time computer buff, dressing up full time as a woman. I want to meet other TV/CD/TSs and talk about things like lingerie, high heels, hosiery, makeup and being known and treated as a woman.

ALISON YOUNG
(RI-P-M4650-K10273-82)
Member TCNE. Just remember, life could be worse. Shauna, where are you?

PATRICIA LYNN ROSS
(RI-P-M5499-K3302-88)
Pre-op M to F TS. Full time female. Romantic optimist. Will correspond with pre-transition sisters, offer perspective and support. Member/Secretary MORF? RI's TG support group. Support Youth Pride RI.

KENDRA G.
(RI-P-M6165-K13549-84)
Bi-CD, 37, 5'9", 145, divorced (5 yrs) single, strong TS feelings at times. I love the classic Vargas girl look. I would like to meet another bi-CD or TS to establish solid friendship evolving into a long term relationship.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

A. M. GREENE
(NH-M0731-K0277-99)
Post-op, new-woman. Interests are computers, reading, music, gendered people, belly-dancing & all things feminine. Editor of the TV-TS Confidential Magazine. We need cover girls.

DANIELLE M.
(NH-P-M3161-K5983-82)
S, M-F pre-op TS on hormones. 5'6", slender, feminine figure and legs at 124#. Natural red hair with blue eyes. Living and working as a woman, 2/94. Healthy mentally and physically. Very happy, but need someone special.

SHERI SERENA P.
(NH-M5661-K9902-82)
45, hetero. I'm still in the closet even though I have been wearing women's clothes since age twelve. I put on my first slip, bra & nylons then, & always loved shiny, wet-look type clothes. Would like to correspond with someone.

LISA MICHELLE M.
(NH-P-M6167-K13550-84)
SGM, 30s, TS tendencies. A female inside since birth. Enjoy theater, nature, music, shopping, history, and art. Would welcome friendships with others in S NH ond E MA areas. Also looking for Mr. Right. Will answer all.

HOLLY A.
(NH-M6392-K14517-82)
Explore your feminine side in a safe, discreet atmosphere with an understanding woman. You don't have to dress alone. Beginners always welcome and encouraged.

MAINE

VERMONT

JOAN MARIE L.
(VT-M0528-K0340-87)
SWM, hetero CD, 40, 6', full-figured. Love to shop for music. Like cooking, Sci-Fi fantasy, & travel. Real passion for lingerie, esp. bras, panties, teddies, slips, girdles, hosiery & heels. Wish to correspond with TGs.

CLARISSA LYNN MICHAELS
(VT-M4760-P10702-82)
MWM. 51! My wife of 25+ years is genuinely supportive and comfortable with all. I've been dressing with varied intensity since early teens. Not very passable, but enjoy getting and being dressed. Looking for sisters to share and visit with. Confidentiality assured. Will answer all.

CONNECTICUT

CARLA E. GOLDSNIDER
(CT-P-M0212-K0374-84)
SWM, quiet, understanding. Live alone. Member ConnView. COS, Transgender and Tapestry. Enjoy being en femme, meeting TVs, men, females for parties, going out. Lifetime CD. Very comfortable with myself. Would appreciate photo which I will return with first letter.

ANDREA G.
(CT-M0425-K0357-83)
Married, 5'11, 170. Interested in sports, good food, reading. Like to develop friendships in the TG community, & welcome correspondence.

MICHELLE KAY
(CT-P-M1490-K0368-86)
Mbr Tiffany Club, COS. SWM, hetero, TV, 5'10", blue eyes, light brown hair. Quiet & sincere. Enjoy cross-country skiing, music, theater, & travel. Looking for honest, caring, feminine CDs for correspondence or get-togethers.

ANDREA STEVENS
(CT-P-M3214-K6216-82)
Mbr COS. Hetero CD, 5'8", 155, late 40s. Happily married. Wife aware and tolerant. Interested in competitive cycling and running, reading, golf and skiing. Been dressing fully since early 20s. Attended First Event '95 & '96. Look forward to future gatherings and helping others.

LAURA RIDDLE
(CT-M3587-K7565-84)
Still too tall and too big. CT shoreline. D\M TV (maybe TG) heading back into dressing with new approach, new wardrobe, and new name, wants to make new friends who enjoy fiction and know reality!

BOB P.
(CT-M6099-K0855-83)
Admirer who likes feminine, sensual TV/TSs. Am slender, athletic, attractive, Ivy-educated and fun. Live alone in quiet residence in lower Fairfield County. Your note will get my phone. Let's chat and meet.

DONNA RUSSO
(CT-P-M6006-K7591-83)
SW TV 39, 5'9", 190, brown eyes, blond hair, Italian. Like fishing, motorcycle riding, romantic times. Looking for single, blue collar, Spanish, Haitian, Puerto Rican or W male, 5'8" or taller, 30-42. Must be serious. Please send photo.

NEW JERSEY

SUZIE M.
(NJ-M0686-K0419-83)
MWM, early 50s, bi-CD, 6'1", 180. Dressing since childhood. Love wearing lingerie, heels, hose and short skirts. SO not supportive. Would like to correspond and meet with other TV/TS/CDs. Please send photo. Will reply to all.

BABS C.
(NJ-P-M3219-K6211-85)
Member MOTG, Renaissance, Imperial Queens, Secretary of GNYGA. Married with loving supportive wife. Enjoy fine art, music, standardbred horses, tennis and writing. Travel to NYC, New Hope, Poconos, Aycee and Florida en femme. Meet other TG couples for dinner, clubs, shopping and serious talk.

JAN DIANA N.
(NJ-M3908-K4840-84)
MWM, hetero, 6'1", 200, blue eyes. SO has known for years, but is neither supportive nor accepting, which hurts. Crossdressed since age five with mom's support. Still in closet. Feel very feminine when dressed as the person I want to be. Will answer all. Photo nice.

KAREN KEYES
(NJ-P-M3309-K6595-82)
Mbr Renaissance. TCNE First Event '93,4,5,6. Attend other events each year. Attractive & feminine when dressed. Open-minded. Wish to meet TGs for friendship & socializing. Photo appreciated.

JANE T.
(NJ-M3487-K7209-82)
55-year-old white, hetero, rubber-loving TV. Interested in corresponding with others of all interests. The closet filled with her rubber wardrobe is not a bad place, as long as you like yourself. Your picture gets mine. Will answer all.

ELAINE MONROE
(NJ-M3637-K7810-84)
Love feminine role. Co-Director of MOTG, Mbr Renaissance, Tri-Ess. Attended Coming Together, Be All, Southern Comfort, Fantasia Fair, Paradise in the Poconos. Speaker for TG community. Goal to help others out of closets, & to help the TGs legally & socially. Want to network with those with similar goals.

ARLENE THIEL
(NJ-P-M3777-K8249-85)
Mbr of Renaissance. Attend many events. 5'9", 155 lb., very smooth, SWM TV, live alone, mature professional. Only hobby is being feminine. Love to entertain & share girl things. Love going out to have fun. I correspond lots & answer all sooner or later. Pictures help.

KATHLEEN M.
(NJ-P-M4719-K10436-86)
Just recently came out & loving every minute. 5'6", 140. Like photography & music. Want to help sisters with photos. Love being a girl & look forward to meeting other girls like me. Want to hear from you.

JAKE L.
(NJ-P-M4993-K10734-84)
Romantic, educated, professional gentleman, 30s, 6', 180, admirer. Seek caring friendship with TS or feminine TG person 21-45. Understanding and supportive of gender issues. Enjoy shopping, fun times & cozy nights. Travel extensively.

DONNA WALSH
(NJ-M5459-K11222-83)
5'9", 150#, single, sincere, sensitive. Gender aware since childhood. Uncertain of final destination, but sure I am not yet there. Recently returned home after five years in Texas. Well educated, seeking new career opportunities. Enjoy sailing, reading, music, off beat movies and film festivals, travel. Seeking correspondence/friendship with old and new friends.

BRANDY LEE
(NJ-M5491-K10141-84)
My chosen gender is female. Being a woman is the ultimate. I'm 5'11", 155#, with long hair. Seek a M2F TG with long hair between 18 and 35 years old. Let's explore together.

JILL ANGELIQUE JARIS
(NJ-P-M5817-K10072-82)
41-yeor-oldTG.Judge opproved my petition far o legol nome chonge on 8/22/97,so now Jill Angelique is my REAL name! Enjoy music from the '60s, especiolly Beotles. As you can see from my middle nome,I om o big Dork Shodows fan.

NEW YORK

WINNIE BRANT
(N NY-P-M0228-K0582-99)
Mbr Tiffony,Tri-Ess,TGIC. Awards: Miss Fontosio Foir. CD, 60+, 6'2". Many interests. Scientificolly & culturolly oriented. Hove ottended mony CD events. Very busy os president of TGIC, but will try to answer ony correspondence.

DELORES M.
(SE NY-P-M0808-K555-84)
Mbr Chi Delta Mu (post president), LIFE,Serenity.Attended Fantasio Foir, Poconos W/E (1st runner-up,Miss Poconos), Coming Together. Morried, middle-oged, 5'10", engineer, lifelong TV.Interested in foshion,photogrophy,clossic bebop,science,soiling, biking, tennis, outos, & being outdoors.I love the fun port of the scene, derive o lot of pleosure from it.

VICKIE STONE
(SE NY-P-M1035-K0559-83)
46-y/o CD,ottorney,divorced,but recently (re)morried o beoutiful ond supportive lody who gives Vickie emotionol support ond foshion ossistonce.Vickie olso enjoys song-writing, ploys guitor ond boss, loves country music. Member LIFE, former member Chi Delto Mu. Former Editor LIFElines. Other commitments keep me from being os octive os I'd like ot the present time.

FRANCINE C.
(NY-M1584-K0631-82)
SWM,5'10",185,54.Interested in outdoors,reading and fishing. Love the tatal feminine look.Trying to poss.Interested in corresponding and meeting oll, especiolly in southern tier NY,NE PA. Discreet.

VICTORIA LOUISE NORRELL
(SE-NY-P-M1960-K2390-86)
I om beoutiful for I om me. I am Victorio & I love life. I am totolly energized by living feminine & om very praud. Class & dignity ore my life & tho' I con never be o womon,I will never be onything less thon o lady.If yau write,I will onswer.To oll I wish peace ...af mind ...of spirit ...

KATHERINE H.
(NY-P-M2073-K2139-84)
Mbr of TGIC in Albony.Attended Fontosio Foir '89, '90, '91, Coming Together in Pitts & Philodelphio. Donohue Show, Nationol Gender Lobby Doy '95, TG facilitotar LGBT Conference '96 ot SUNY Albony, groduote student/writer/LGBT octivist. Love music, comedy ond my softer side.

ROBYN LATHROP
(NY-P-M2361-K3078-82)
Trying to occept thot femininity is on importont port of my life. I'd like ta heor from people who hove successfully blended in os women. Would like to leorn obout the teenoge ond childhood experiences of others,too.

JENNIFER B.
(NY-P-M2441-K3429-83)
MWM with supportive wife,member Eulenspiegel Society.Seek meetings ond correspondence with TV/TSs who hove o love for lingerie,corsets, feminine costumes ond fontasies.Interested in psychology,metophysics ond foshions. Would lave to heor from yau.

VERONICA MARTIN
(N NY-P-M2482-K3564-82)
SWM,hetera CD.Enjoy the prissy feeling dressing up in full petticaats, squore donce, & porty dresses. Still looking far ane understonding gender womon in my life.

EMILY C.
(NY-P-M2966-K5109-84)
MWM, 5'6", size 10, supportive SO. Enjoy shopping, correspondence, photo exchonge." Joy is where the inner femininity finds expression in the outside world."

KATHY LORRAINE
(NY-P-M2974-K5110-82)
5'13" single businesswomon. TG. 49 ond going into holding. Officer Buffolo Belles.Happy to help new comers into our world.Interested in CD/TS gold tournoment summer '97. Any other hockers out there?

LARRY K.
(NY-M5036-K4726-84)
Feminine TV/TS sought by stroight, white, professionol gentlemon, 40! Nice, normol guy in western NY seeking lodylike friend from poges of Tronsgender for fun, maybe romontic relotionship. Very supportive. Any distonce, age. Photos exchonged.

BRENDA VEE
(LI NY-P-M3089-K5695-84)
Mbr: LIFE. Outreoch Director,Fontosio Foir '93-'96. Ms. Helpful, '96. 40s, TG, supportive SO. Striving for personol best. Sensitive to oll in the community, ond will correspond with sincere,open-minded people. Diversity is our blessing.

ANGELA MARTIN
(NY-P-M3252-K6426-82)
I'd like to heor from onyone who is interested in porticipoting in o discussion-bosed support group for CDs in centrol ond western NY. Meetings ore centered on the issues of crossdressing ond reloted topics.

CATHERINE L.
(NY-M4359-K3186-86)
Member COS. MWM, 6'2", 44, hetero CD. I hove been dressing since teens. Came out five years ogo. Don't pass too well, but I do go shopping dressed. Would love compony or talk an oll things feminine. Wife knows but is not supportive.

TAMMIE ANDERSON
(NY-P-M4141-K8935-87)
TG, 50ish, 5'10", 170, computer teocher.Tri-Ess,Chi Delto MU. Love to dress ond shop ond hove been going in public locolly the post three yeors without incident. Love to correspond with sisters ond interested in meeting gols who live in the Westchester,NY oreo.

ELIZABETH B.
(NY-P-M4248-K3480-84)
Single,51,5'7",175,hetero.Interested in finding femole friends; men for doting ond TS componionship. Currently on hormones. Kind of shy ond need support to move on in my TS life.I like mostly everything ond wont to have fun,but not onything sexuol. Will answer oll glodly with photo, pleose.

K.L.G.
(NY-P-M4353-K3043-84)
SWM,bi,29,closet CD trying to come out. College educoted in music composition. Interests include electronics, computers, ond guitor. Foscinoted by those living full time. Will onswer oll correspondence. Pleose write.

CLAUDIA T.
(NY-P-M4875-K9887-82)
It's nat haw you laak, it's how you feel! And darling, I feel morvelous. Thot goes far oll my fellaw sisters out there. Pleose write and I'll get back to you!

JANET E.
(NY-M5164-K11395-81)
SWM CD living in lawer Westchester Couinty,47,5'7". Looking to meet TVs. Would like to meet older gentleman who knows haw to treat a lady.

JUDY M.
(NY-M5594-K12374-81)
MWM mature CD who wishes ta remain in the closet. Interested in acting out fantasies including soft bondage and role playing.

CHRISSY S.
(NY-P-M5195-K11530-82)
SWM,hetero CD,5'11",47,engineer. Enjoy travel,theater,electronics,fashion and shopping. Outgoing with great sense of humor, but very discreet about crossdressing. Prefer the professional career-girl look and the very feminine look. Interested in meeting women from NYC area for friendship/relationship.

CHRISSIE YORK
(NY-P-M5212-K11564-82)
Member CD Network. WM CD, 5'5", 160. Interested in dressing clubs. Red hair. Can pass. Looking far an understanding female & other TG. I will write back. Lifetime CD.

ANGEL L.
(NY-M5222-K4611-89)
SWF,caring,pretty,funny,honest (30s), marriage/friendship-minded, monogomous,moralistic,romantic,spiritual,understonding. Seek same: hetera SWM,CD,30s,(NO smoke/drink/drugs/promiscuity) even-tempered, non-abusive,5 - 6. Love comedy,culture,dining,fifties,fun,music,theater, etc.

WENDI R.
(NY-P-M5816-K0336-86)
45, 5'8", hetero CD 150, 36-29-38. Closet CD,love to come out,but wife will not understand. Lave everything feminine. CD since 12 years old. Love to pass, but I don't think I can. Shy, discreet.

TERI SHANNON
(NY-P-M5339-K5768-82)
Single, sane lovable, young far 40s, pre-op M-FTS with vivid imagination seeks Mr. Right for romantic candlelit evenings,possibly langer. Well built 30-40s gentleman must appreciate unbridled femininity and support my quest to lose remaining inhibitions. Shapely,5'10",165. Not a good carrespondent, will travel northern NY. Phata appreciated.

CLEO JONES
(NY-P-M5376-K2860-83)
MWM, hetero, 60+, 5'9". Mbr Buffalo Belles. Rochester CD Network. Crossdressing since childhoad. Wife negative and unaware af my TV life. Love ta dress and be feminine. Looking for someone in my area for conversation. Can't afford separate apartment for Cleo. Will answer letters.

FRANCINE P
(NY-P-M5622-K10729-84)
SWM, 5'11", CD. Rarely in public, never try passing. Interests: arts, music, activism. Would love being domestic partner af tall, dominant woman, 50+, in role-reversed relatianship. Am healthy, loving, sensual, very respansive. All GFs, bi, straight,gay answered.

CHRISTY-LYNN B.
(NY-P-M5738-K12693-81)
Slim CD, size 6, adore music (classical, jazz, and pop), perform in NYC area, very femme & comfartable in public. Interested in meeting ather sincere, passable TV/TG/TSs. Send photo with letter.

DEBBIE F.
(NY-P-M5798-K6076-82)
Mbr TGIC in Albany. Interested in friendship or passible relatianship. Would like to talk or carrespond. I'm 43,big and easy going. Like trains,car racing,and videotaping nature and other interesting events.

L.W.
(NY-M5936-K3917-82)
This is a healthy,active person (M/67) interested in a CD friendship with either F2M or M2F. The sole purpose is to enjoy travel, particularly cruise travel, and most all functians on appropriately enjoyed basis. Regardless of whether F2M or M2F, I could contribute in a positive and helpful manner.

STEPHANIE S.
(NY-P-M5997-K12955-83)
DWM, TV, 46 (feel 33 when dressed and out), 132, 5'8", energetic, adventurous, pass well, enjoy shopping,outdoors,restaurants and festivals as Stephanie. So relaxing! Interested in writing to and meeting other TVs who go out, and genetic femoles. Will answer all. Phota appreciated.

ANA HUNT
(NY-P-M6041-K13138-83)
Biological female using makeup, clothes to facilitate M-F and F-M CD since early '70s. Member af leather community versed in roleplay,fetish. A respected damina for carrespondence and professional training. Individuals, couples. New York and California.

KEN R.
(NY-M6079-K13261-84)
MWM,CD,62. Not passable. Love TV-literature and sexy lingerie. Want to hear from you, especially New Englanders. I will answer.

LORRAINE DEVERE
NY-P-M6240-K13802-81)
DWM, CD 5'11", 39. Author and full time Graduate student. Interests include psychology, paganism, mythology, spirituality, fitness, astronamy, amateur radio and transgenderism. New to the scene. Laoking for supportive, open-minded sisters for friendship and correspondence.

MICHELE W.
(NY-P-M6291-K14032-81)
TS on hormones almost a year. 6', 155. Interested in shopping, dining out, travel and staying fit. Enjoy dating tall men who know haw ta treat a woman. Will answer all letters. Phota if possible.

SHARON KANE
(NY-P-M6338-K0580-83)
DWM,48,5'8",145,Albany area. Love to dress in sexy lingerie,pretty dresses, gowns and high heels. Then take phatas of myself. Also have fetish for fashion magazines like Glamaur. Would like ta correspond with CDs, and understanding wamen for friendship. I miss female campanionship.

PENNSYLVANIA

VERONICA MARTIN
(PA-M2482-K3564-82)
SWM hetero CD. Enjoy dressing in full petticoats & square dance dresses. Would love to go square dancing. Interested in meeting understanding women. PS: Barbara (genetic girl), you left out your return address in letter.

MICHELLE DOUGLAS
(SE PA-M2623-K3889-87)
MWM,40-something. Enjoy fine lingerie,satin dresses and high heels. Married to an accepting and helpful wife. Would like to hear fram other married couples concerning CD relationships.

PHYLLIS JEAN W.
(W PA-P-M2770-K4563-83)
5'11",165,CD with strong TS tendencies. Now 40-samething. I paint,play guitar and am struggling with computers. I enjoy jazz and rock,and occasionally classical music. I am a poor correspondent due to my heavy schedule.

WILMA ANNE SILVER
(NY-M3388-K6832-86)
Hetero CD,mature lady,committed to enjoying the feminine feelings that

were left unfulfilled earlier. Enjoy photography and soiling. First memory crossdressed at 3 years. Now on line. Your e-mail address for mine. Home page under construction. Like chat rooms.

MICHELLE PETERSON
(PA-P-M3813-K3861-83)
SW bi-TV, tall, sexy blonde. Can be submissive or dominant. Love wearing leather, satins and lace, sheer stockings, high heels. Love to hear from all! Please include letter and photo for reply. Until then, Love, Michelle.

DIANE DALE
(PA-P-M4229-K7136-84)
Member Renaissonce, attend Paradise in the Poconos; MWM, hetero. Enjoy music, photography, shopping, aviation, and clubbing. Wife tolerant but not porticipoting. Have a relatively normol life-style. Dress only a few times a year. Love to have fun, but nothing too extreme. Will answer all.

D. MCKAY
(PA-P-M4296-K8817-81)
Mbr Tri-Ess, Erie Sisters, founder of Trovelers Express, a central PA group of confident, 100% public, out folks. NOT CROSS nor TRANS nor a woman thing, rather self-acceptance as being uniquely YOU. Single, progressive, hetero 'Dresser.' GGs always welcome. Be All and Riverside attendant. Femme photo gets response. Accept and enjoy who you ore without shame.

CHARLES M.
(PA-M4774-K10509-82)
SW M-F hetero CD, 5'10", 260, Mbr TCNE. Like to help hetero F2M CDs discuss men's traditions during weekend meetings in PA Poconos, ABE areo or Central NJ. Helps if you like Jopanese & Chinese cuisine.

ERICA EDWARDS
(PA-P-M4505-K9143-81)
Mbr Renoissonce. CD, 6', 180, 12/14. Want letter/meeting others who oppreciate the finer things in life. Enjoy shopping, dining & good conversation. Still working on Erica, her image is now that of a stylish sophisticated woman. Let's talk.

BARBARA D.
(PA-P-M5151-K9319-82)
DWM, 30s, tall, thin, hetero TV. Love fashion & modeling. Enjoy the challenge & magic when the clothes, accessories & makeup form a convincing transformation. My interests include music, art, cooking & fitness. Would like to hear from accepting females and other TV/TSs.

ELLEN S.
(PA-P-M5319-K11011-82)
SWM, 46, Bi-TV. Been crossdressing since my teens. Like to be out of the closet more, but fear I would not poss. Like to write & meet other TV/TS/CDs for friendship or relotionship. Love wigs, makeup & being feminine. Discreet. Will try to answer oll.

ROBIN LYNN
(PA-P-M5822-K9226-82)
40, Bi-CD with TS possibility, blonde, blue eyes. Love to dress to impress. Been out one year; loving it! Drink, smoke, party. Wish to meet CD/TS/GG, select males, clean and discreet. Only go around once, so let's do as we wish. Love. Photo nice.

JAMIE LYNN
(PA-P-M5944-K12969-83)
Single, pre-op TS, 40s, 5'10", 150. Looking for special friendship. Love the arts and all things feminine. Enjoy ort museums and disco clubs. Can travel northern MD, DE, eastern and central PA. Response limited to GGs and other TGs.

DENISE JANE H.
(PA-M6101-K13329-88)
Emerging TV with TS feelings. MWM, 45, 145, 6'0", 8. Hetero, but curious. Married, with children, to a wonderful, understanding, and occepting woman. Member of IFGE & Renoissance. Enjoy shopping, camping, quiet times & being domestic. Love heels, lingerie, dressing & being feminine. Interested in meeting & corresponding with other TV/TG/TSs, especiolly morried couple.

JEAN STEWART
(PA-M6340-K14301-81)
Genetic girl, hetero, 34, 135, 5'6". I'd like to correspond with a CD male for mutuol understanding of our feminine selves ond to develop a close, loyol, trusting friendship which could grow into long-term, intimate, proven relationship. I need genuine, open, honest sincerity and mutual respect.

MARGO E.
(PA-M6496-K14465-83)
Mid-50s, recently retired executive. Able to travel. Play golf all over the country. Also enjoy motorcycle riding, along with feminine fashion, especially silk and satin. Would like to correspond with other CDs ond occepting females. Will answer all.

DELEWARE

AUDREY J. STEELE
(DE-P-M2434-K3366-86)
Mbr Renaissance, Tri-Ess. To all who have written, please forgive me; I just could not keep up. Thank you all! I come and go dressed anywhere, so I'm out there, and very lucky to have met the people from eoch orgonization. I hope and pray thot I con be and hove been of some help to others.

BRENDA LYNN GRAY
(DE-P-M5215-K2009-82)
Single CD, 5'7", sz 8. Mbr Renaissonce. Comfortable with my male & fem self. Love going out dressed. Enjoy making friends. Like to hear from sisters. Photo appreciated.

ELIZABETH C.
(DE-P-M5733-K12679-85)
MWM, 39, 6', 175. Have been crossdressing for 10+ years. Wife very supportive. Looking for other married or single crossdressers to correspond with. Enjoy boating, model roilroading ond sexy clothing. All answered.

WASHINGTON D.C

SHEILA B.
(DC-M3810-K7721-81)
Meet me in the closet, that's where the clothes are. Lifelong crossdresser and lingerie lover wishes to encounter her mirror image: a morried bi-TV interested in a confidential and mutually satisfying friendship.

TORI W.
(DC-P-M6409-K14624-82)
I am 36, 6'1", 156, just starting to explore my feminine side with the help of a supporting, enthusiastic lady. Would like to meet other couples and singles for going out and sharing interests including sports, writing, travel.

MARYLAND

DIANNE FERN
(MD-P-M2229-K2673-82)
A mature TV with great interest in the transgendered life-style. Wife is very supportive. Enjoy jazz, walks on the beach, fireside talks, and smoll social get-togethers. Dress often. Wish to share gender euphoria with sisters and others who have an interest in our life-style.

ANN MILLER
(MD-M2776-K4606-82)
45-year-old CD, TS wonnabe, friendly, affectionate, passable on o good doy. Available for... I don't know. I'd like to hear from soul mates of like mind. Photo, please.

STEPHANIE G.
(MD-M2847-K3353-81)
Lifelong TV-TG fetishist. Have extensive library which I've maintoined for 28 years: TV-TS moterial. Married with understonding and supportive wife. Speciol interest in petticoat punishment ond enforced TV. We love to moke new friends. Please write!

TOM D.
(MD-M5750-K12704-81)
TV from early childhood. I enjoy all that is feminine. Age 64, pass for early 50s. Onto yachting, fishing ond enjoying people. Looking for other TVs and women in the surrounding states. Will answer all.

RENE REYNOLDS
(MD-P-M4191-K8579-82)
34 years young and very active. Interests include Rollerbloding, hiking, scubo, music, and, of course, shopping. I am passionately searching for an accepting GG or TS for a lifetime relationship.

JESSICA LABRECQUE
(MD-P-M5983-K2698-83)
SW TV, 5'10", 150, sandy blond with green eyes. Beautiful set of legs that I love to show off. I enjoy stuffed animals, shopping and dancing. Love to meet a slim, attractive TV who is interested in starting hormones with me.

THOMAS T.
(MD-M6416-K14711-83)
BM, 5'6", retired Army. Finally, after years of suppression, I can begin to enjoy life. Hope to start dressing soon. Would love to hear from anyone, even if it's just to say hello. I am a great listener.

VIRGINIA

LINDA C.
(VA-M0703-K0784-82)
Mbr of Tri-Ess. 5'8", 150, MWM, hetero TV. Interested in women's fashions, gourmet cooking, photography, music. Enjoy meeting, corresponding with TVs.

JAYNE MACK
(VA-M1206-K0748-84)
WM, bi, 50s. Feminine side been closeted too long. Now eager to learn and experience all. Would love to hear from sisters, women and men who can help. Love books, writing, jazz, computers and sexy lingerie.

SHEILA W.
(VA-P-M2276-K2832-81)
40, 6', 190, green eyes. Interested in photography, exchanging photos. Try to be a good correspondent, not always successful. Enjoy meeting others. Always trying to be better. Advice welcome.

KIMBERLY C.
(N VA-P-M2300-K2981-82)
TG. Have been crossdressing for 40 yeors. Last attended Southern Comfort 1994. Mbr Virginia's Secret, TGEA. Will exchonge experiences of coming out to fomily & business associates. Will answer oll.

HEIDI ANN COBART
(VA-P-M2522-K3686-84)
New to Richmond, Va. Very feminine and passable, very bi-curious. Seeking friendship, playmate. Would love to hear from passable CD/TSs and bi-GGs. Very sensitive, spontaneous, adventurous, playful, fun to be with ond discreet. Let's explore the possibilities!

DON C.
(VA-M4284-K1425-84)
DC-metro area Asian male looking for a special lady to spend quality time with. Good sense of humor, like to enjoy life. Gentleman, always. Looking forward to hearing from you.

DIANA AUSTIN
(VA-P-M3283-K6478-82)
I enjoy my life! Outgoing, sophisticated, unpretentious, ond fun-loving describes me. Do you like foshion, art, theater, fine wine and being yourself? Yes! Well then, write to me and tell me more. I enjoy corresponding with sincere, intelligent people.

MELINDA C.
(VA-M5236-K11639-82)
SWM, 6'1", 52, TV for 35+ years. Still in the closet, but have been out once and it was wonderful. Will be joining Tri-Ess soon. Hope to meet ond correspond with other sisters!

SEANNA HIDEGARD
(VA-M5956-K8518-86)
Married CD, hetero, non-approving wife. Would like to be in touch with others in my area in same circumstances. Love lingerie most. Very closeted.

DANIELLE MEADOWS
(VA-P-M5455-K10619-83)
Enjoy writing to other sisters; I'm in lifelong transition looking for lifelong friendships. I'm 5'8", 133, TS, and poss without problems. Enjoy lying on beach in bikini, hiking in mountains, canoeing, going to movies (sci-fi) and Native American music. Spiritual vegetarian.

JUNE GRILLS
(VA-M6124-K13407-83)
MWM CD, 60, 5'11", size 14-16. Retired, exploring feminine side. Hobbies are sailing ond classic cors. Possion is crossdressing and all things feminine. Want to correspond with and meet others to share girl things. All letters answered promptly.

ANDIE LEE
(VA-M6336-K14284-81)
SWM, 40-ish, TG, possible TS, 5'9", 140, size 8. Happy, well adjusted, positive outlook. Living full time as a lody. Recently returned to USA after many yeors abroad. Wish to meet TGs for friendship and possible romance.

CINDY WILLIAMS
(VA-P-M6422-K14762-83)
TV, separated, 40s, intelligent, educoted, unpretentious, very considerate. Confidently looking for new life/career. Male, yet feminine; loving, sensitive, submissive. Sincerely seek to build togetherness, serve, share life with intelligent, assertive, yet gentle, loving woman. I need to give, love; and be loved.

WEST VIRGINIA

STEVIE LYNN
(WV-P-M5769-K12733-82)
Single CD, TS tendencies, 40s, 5'9", 162. Pass fairly well. Television engineer, rock singer, song-writer, musician. (Rabid Stevie Nicks fan.) Smoll home studio. Several gender songs. Trying for mainstream music success as a woman. Need help with feminine singing voice. Speaking voice okay. Know any record producers?

NORTH CAROLINA

FRANCES T.
(NC-P-M1245-K0823-82)
Mbr TVC, Tri-Ess. Participant Coming Together, Be All. Late 30s, 5'7", 140. Pass very well. Enjoy shopping chatting with store clerks, beauty personnel, etc., who know me. Flew dressed to my last convention. Look forward to doing it again next year. Browse in women's magazines & dress catalogues. Not a good correspondent.

PAMELA ROGERS
(NC-P-M4235-K9428-84)
This Corolina girl adores everything about being a lady. Enjoy sending letters and photos to friends from all over. Love the humorous side of our transgendered community, & proud to be a port of it. Being Pomela is not something I do, it is a part of who I om. Write soon!

EMMA S.
(NC-P-M4864-K6443-87)
SWM, bi-TV, 35, out with public, not out with family yet. Searching for friends and possibly more. Prefer 1950s glamour look (Jane Russell wannabe), including lingerie (esp. girdles and corsets), evening wear, and cigorette holders. Please write. I will reply.

A.G.
(NC-M5485-K12085-84)
WM, 38, 5'11" 170#. Seek feminine, passable TV/TS for friendship and possible relationship in NC. Educated professional desires that special someone who wants to be totally treoted as a lady. Willing to host. Photo phone gets reply.

RACHEL K.
(NC-P-M6214-K13714-81)
SWM CD, 5'10" 170. Love dressing and sexy lingerie. Would love to meet sisters in the triangle areo or surrounding stotes. Will respond to all. Can travel.

RANDI P.
(NC-P-M6311-K14133-81)
SWM lesbian CD, very soft and femme. 5'8", 120, long hair, blue eyes, many interests. Seek female, TS or passable CD to relocate with me for lasting love. Prefer my height or smaller. Letter, photo, must. Let's meet.

SOUTH CAROLINA

TRISH J.
(SC-M4698-K9264-82)
MWM TV, 36, 190, 5'10", size 16. Seeking others in upper SC or western NC. Would love to write, talk & maybe meet other sisters. Dressing since early teens. Wife supportive and understands my need to be me. Working on that passing thing we all worry about.

GEORGIA

STEPHANIE COX
(GA-M5122-K9875-81)
43, open-minded, open heart, massage therapist and herbalist. Coming out and gaining strength by doing so. Supportive family and friends. Deeply spiritual., Love classical piano, jazz, Tai Chi, botany, gardening.

CINDY COLLINS
(GA-P-M5993-K4470-83)
Divorced. CD since age 5. Dress completely as a woman every night. Exclusively wear dress with appropriate lingerie. Silk Reflections pantyhose and high heels. Makeup by Channel and Estee Lauder, jewelry by Channel.

FLORIDA

PETRA DAWN
(FL-P-M1314-K0817-81)
Member Tau Lambda, IFGE, AEGIS. Married, 6'2", 190, 41. Feel like life is just beginning. I am working hard to understand where I am going on this glorious gender journey. Interested in hearing from others in the N FL/S GA area.

JOAN J.
(FL-P-M1703-K1867-84)
SWM, hetero-TV, 46, 5'11", 165, professional in Tampa Bay area. Enjoy photography and sports cars. Working on voice. Seeking understanding, nonsmoking woman for friendship. Also like to meet gentle, positive-minded TV/TSs.

PATSY L.
(FL-P-M2636-K4118-82)
SWM, bi-TV, 5'5", 138, 52, 7/8, professional with advanced degrees. Wish to correspond, travel, and host. Interests: cooking, touring, camping and being feminine. Would love to go shopping, dancing, dining en femme. Hope to meet right person for romance and a serious loving relationship.

JEAN RICH
(FL-P-M2824-K4690-86)
Lecturer, star of stage shows, HBO special. All dressed and nowhere to go. Look forward to meeting people interested in photography, stocks, travel and dancing. Hetero, 5'8". Send photo for return response.

MONIQUE SIMONE
(FL-P-M3328-K6606-84)
Statuesque, bi-TV, Ft. Myers. Interested in meeting other sisters in the area. Couple also. Enjoy all feminine things, golf, photography, internet.

DIANNE WHITE
(FL-P-M4025-K5217-83)
TS on hold. Mbr MOTG. Fun, enjoyable, dateable. Let's party. 60, slim figure, size 9, nice legs. Love dressing stylishly, youthful and provocatively. Spike heels, tight skirts and black nightgowns were made for me. Feel the same? Fantastic! Let's chat. Love corresponding. All answered.

STEPHANIE MICHAELS
(FL-P-M3753-K8207-83)
Founding member of the North Florida Sisters (Jacksonville area). Attended Southern Comfort '93. SWM, 43, 5'5", 145. Always looking for CD or TS girl friend in the area to go out on the town with.

DAWN ELIZABETH E.
(FL-P-M5353-K2034-82)
Would enjoy hearing from other TS girls in S FL. In transition and would like to have a friend to guide me. Will answer all promptly!

NANCY McDERMOTT
(FL-P-M5456-K10695-83)
MWM, hetero TV, wife knows. Want to write/visit like-minded TGs/couples. Can travel state. Contemporary dresser, average looks. Will answer all & would like to be a woman with you & will share costs. I don't drink/drug/smoke.

MICHELLE KAUFMAN
(FL-P-M5723-K12668-81)
M bi-TV, 30s, 5'11", 150, size 12, drink, smoke, party. Seeking local friends with similar interests and correspondence with all interested in bi-TV lifestyle. Don't be shy!

MICHELLE SHARP
(FL-P-M5756-K12724-81)
SWM bi, 50, CD since childhood. Honest, discreet, playful adventuress. Adore femininity. Interested in music SCUBA, plants, friends, conversation and laughter. Wish to meet, converse and/or correspond with TV/TS, men or women with inquisitive minds and playful spirits.

SUSAN AWGMAN
(FL-P-M5840-K3908-82)
Single college instructor looking for new places to continue on this wonderful path I have been allowed to travel. I am spiritually centered and most baggage has been unloaded. Love all life's experiences. All correspondence answered. TS, 5'11", 170, 41.

NIKKI W.
(FL-P-M6025-K13085-83)
Single, lonely TS. Presently incarcerated, but soon to be released. 23, 5'7", blonde, blue eyes, disease-free. I'd like to correspond with other TS/TV/CDs. ISO LTR or just friendship. Certified paralegal, too.

BRITTANY S.
(FL-P-M6369-K14269-82)
27-year-old pre-op TS, 5'11". Seeking feminine, passable CD/TS for friendship near Florida west coast. For those interested, please provide photo and a description about yourself.

ALABAMA

PAULA R.
(AL-P-M2820-K4698-84)
Member of Montgomery Institute, NOW,LWV,ACLU. Attended Southern Comfort '91,2,3. DWM,62,5'10",174, TG-TS? Interested in baats,coaking, theater,music,collectibles,Civil War buff,active in environmental groups, local histarical preservations. Semi-retired. Can travel at will.

SARAH C. JAMES
(AL-P-M4764-K10766-82)
DWM, early 50s (feel much younger!),5'8",140,teacher,author. Coastal Alabama. Love partying,all kinds af dancing (especially being led),reading,mavies,travel,dressing nicely,meeting new peaple,having new adventures,receiving and answering letters. Love being a woman. I answer all letters.

HOLLY GRANT
(AL-P-M5952-K3305-83)
Late 40s,Tri-Ess,wife recently learned and is struggling with it, people watcher (they're a giggle). Na television so plenty of time to write. Love to get mail from all types and from all over. What's an your mind?

JOANNA NOELLE
(AL-P-M6164-K8967-84)
DWM, bi-CD. 50+, 5'11", 170. Been dressing forever, recently out. Gulf Coast, Alabama. Hobbies: music, reading, and, of course, dressing. Very discreet. Wish to find cute,playful TV/TS for fun and men or women for dates.

TENNESSEE

JAMIE CORNETT
(TN-P-M2335-K3037-84)
Sbi-CD,5'11",145. Love being a redhead & en femme. Understanding and open-minded. Will answer all. Request phata.

LIZ FONTAINE
(TN-P-M2471-K3494-82)
Loving, lifelong crossgendered TV, MWM, seek pen pals for sharing thoughts and feelings, childhoad experiences and phatos. Passable, trim, 5'8", 10-12, 40s, brunette (own hair). Especially fand af hairstyling,lingerie and sleep wear, makeup, girl talk, and all things feminine. Answer all,request photo.

KAREN T.
(TN-P-M3039-K4983-81)
DWM, CD, 50s, 5'11", 135. Open-minded, interested in mast things. Would like to meet with ather CDs and admirers living near Tennessee. Phata appreciated.

TONI ALEXANDRA EVOLA
(TN-P-M6102-K6120-83)
Pre-op M2F TS, 25, 5'9", 135, brown/brown. Mbr IFGE. Degreed professional, warking in the health care industry. Interests include the arts, travel, fashian, culture, and writing. Seeking long-term relationship with pre-/post-op TS possessing qualities. Request phota and letter.

LORA M.
(TN-P-M6162-K3579-84)
CD,TG,41,blond,green eyes,6'. Enjoy everything feminine, hair, makeup,clathes,lingerie,dining out, movies,gaing out and having fun. I would like to meet women, CDs,TSs and men in my area for friendship. No nude photos,please.

MISSISSIPPI

SISSY S.
(MS-P-M3443-K7091-83)
Mbr of Tri-Ess, Beta Chi. 5'11", 190, SWM,hetera,41. Like being a woman & meeting women & CDs in MS. Lave gaing ta restaurants,movies,& shopping as Sissy. Seek supportive females for friendship/relationship. I enjoy being a girl, don't you?

MELANIE CUEVAS
(MS-P-M4218-K7363-83)
6'4",205,MWM,hetero CD. Interests: playing guitar, shopping, reading. Wife supportive at hame; still in claset,passable. Quiet and sincere. Would lave to carrespond and passibly meet others in MS. Please send picture. Will answer all.

KENTUCKY

JUKUE R.
(KY-M1992-K2494-84)
Love ta hear from all.

LINDA BUTEN
(KY-P-M2001-K0965-99)
Mbr Crasspart, IFGE Board af Directors. Participant Be All, Coming Together. MWM TV,6',180. Been in public for years,& understand self & others well. Wife & children know,understand & love Linda as an extensian of my personality. Enjay dating tall, well-mannered gentlemen who knaw haw ta treat a lady to the finer things in life.

MARY ANNE WILLIAMS
(KY-P-M5525-K12197-84)
Late 40s. Only recently began giving in to my female feelings. Oh,such sweet surrender! Wonderful,supportive wife. Desperately want to pass. Much to learn. Would like ta get to know other KY girls. Interests: acting, transcendental meditation, rock 'n' roll.

CINDY LEE
(KY-P-M5674-K12524-81)
Mbr StLGS. Attended Be All '96. MWM, 6', 155. Lave being Cindy, and all things feminine. Enjoy carresponding with other CD/TV/TSs.

RACHEL MARIE T.
(KY-M6063-K13218-83)
MWM CD,mid-50s. Recent widower, CD as lang as I can remember. Would like to join a TG community. Maybe I can help in some way.

OHIO

FRAN S.
(OH-M0848-K1016-83)
Retired, living in small town. Interested in senior citizens pre-op or post-op. Willing ta help navice. On hormones and coming out of the closet.

MICHELLE RICHARDS
(S-OH-P-M0954-K1005-81)
Mbr Paradise, Crass-Part, Alpha Omega,Tri-Ess,Sigma Epsilon,Empathy, FIL, Serenity, & Tiffany. Hetero crossdresser, 5'9", 170, educated, friendly. Married 20 years to an A wife. An original organizer af Paradise. I enjay crossdressing,hi-heels, girl talk, & picture-taking sessions. Need help on feminine voice. Started dressing at seven. Now in late 40s.

SUSAN KNIGHT
(N OH-P-M2053-K2450-84)
Divarced, hetero CD,6',185. Mbr Tri-Ess, Alpha Omega. Enjoy fishing. camping, & old movies. Dress anytime I can, absolutely lave it. Still in claset,but dress with sisters wha live close by. If you live in the Huron/Erie County area & feel alone & frustrated,maybe I can help. Discreet.

KAREN S.
(OH-M5873-K2386-82)
MWM, curiaus, shy, a bit scared. Would like to correspond with others who have supportive wives. I still live in secrecy. I will return all photos sent,and try to reply ta all correspondence. Laaking far friendship first.

RHONDA MILLER
(OH-P-M2150-K2546-82)
Live in NW Ohio. Mbr Glass City Sisters, Toledo; Alpha Omega, Tri-Ess. Married CD to supportive wife. 58, 5'7", 176. Attended Riverside '94/5. Pass easily. Go en femme. Doing things other women do. Will answer all. Honest and sincere. Offer support and fellowship.

DIANE M.
(OH-P-M2212-K2660-81)
SWM, 41, tall, thin, shy, hetero TV with very strong TS tendencies. Love everything about being a woman. Would like to correspond with other TSs, pre- or post-op, and genetic females for help with my femininity.

WAYNE L.
(OH-P-M2671-K4180-84)
SWM, 36, decent, masculine, open-minded guy. Like to hear from TV/TSs for friendship, romantic dates, possible relationship. I live out in the country, enjoy nature, photography, motorcycling. Can travel or entertain.

LAURA A. SIMS
(OH-P-M3956-K6882-82)
DWM, mbr Cincinnati CrossPort, Atlanta Sigma Epsilon. Active in local theater arts in administrative capacity. Hobbies are aviation, ornithology and, of course, CD. Like girl talk, organized activities and dining out. Enjoy corresponding with other girls and will reply. PROMISE!

LAUREN A.
(OH-P-M4694-K10380-87)
Femme inside for many years. Now enjoy letting her learn to live. Love dressing, looking good, learning domestic chores. Would love to be a hot date. Computers, photography, woodworking, writing. Will respond.

DENISE DAWSON
(OH-P-M4746-K8130-86)
Mbr paradise Club. attended dozens of conventions. Miss Femininity '93. single CD 39, 5'7", 132. Very passable & love fooling general public, although sometimes chicken. Interested in getting together with other very passable CD/TSs & GGs for good times. Your photo gets mine. Understanding GG desired for quality relationship.

DENISE DAVIDSON
(OH-P-M4984-K9444-83)
Cleveland, west side. Member IME of western Michigan and Paradise Club in Ohio. Married, but living alone due to job transfer. Love shopping, movies, and quiet nights at home. Like to meet TG/TS and GG for friendship.

JILL AMBROSE
(OH-P-M5627-K7653-85)
Mbr Crossport. Hetero, married CD. Out of closet at Be All '95. Flew en femme to '96 Texas T Party. Attended '96 Holiday En Femme. Travel en femme frequently. Love to meet other TGs. Interests include country & western music, photography & railroads.

RENEE S.
(OH-M6379-K14461-82)
Soon to be married again. 5'15", 200, 50s. Have been dressing since a teenager, but enjoying it much more with support of SO. We want to meet couples in Ohio and surrounding states for socializing. Photos shared with those who respond.

INDIANA

YVONNE COOK-RILEY
(IN-P-M1009-K1818-99)
IFGE Board of Directors, Chr. Finance Committee. Lifetime Mbr IXE. IFGE Trinity Award '91. Friendly, sincere individual who enjoys people involved in gender issues.

VANESSA W.
(IN-P-M1166-K1046-81)
MWM CD, 35-year-old. Attend many events around the country. Very supportive wife. Been out for many years and enjoy totally feminine experience. Enjoy shopping, modeling, socializing. Looking for like-minded couples & select singles to meet & walk on the edge with. Photo and letter gets reply

EDIE S.
(IN-M3329-K6627-82)
Mbr IXE, WM CD, gemini. Just coming out, easy going, very sincere individual who enjoys all people involved in gender issues. Power walker. Body fitness & excersise are my lifestyle. Many hobbies, gourmet cooking, bird watcher, beer maker. Love all kinds of music. Write me soon.

TEDDY K.
(IN-M3805-K8287-84)
MWM, nonsupportive wife, mature, advanced CD. Mbr Tri-Ess, IXE & CIGA. Interested in writing, music, history, bicycling, and tennis. Loving, enthusiastic & committed, but also prudent. Eager to help others in our lovely community. Will answer all letters. Photo if possible.

VICTORIA LEE
(IN-P-M4112-K6392-82)
MWM, 51, 5'7", hetero TV, professional educator. Like jazz, classical music, dance, nature, technology and the future. Everything soft and feminine. Have loved dressing as a girl since I was 4. Still trying to get out the door.

MICHIGAN

MILESA PHAR
(MI-P-M0976-K1068-83)
Transgender supporter of Be All, 12 years. Photography, motorcycle hobby, college lecturer, Crossroads past officer.

JENNIFER ANN NELSON
(SE MI-P-M1165-K1050-81)
5'11", 170, reddish brown hair, blue eyes, TS. What a beautiful exploration this has been. Though I cannot be Jennifer all the time, those times that I am are special and have taught me to move in this world accepted as a woman.

MARCIA ANNT.
(MI-P-M1871-K2173-83)
Mbr IFGE, Cross Roads of MI, Tri-Ess. Mature lady passing in public for over 50 years. Dependable correspondent. Pleased to share my experiences and advice with all who wish help. Reside in tri-city area and south Florida.

DIANE REED
(MI-M3740-K8200-85)
Some see things as they are and ask, Why? I see things as they could be and ask, Why not? TG, visionary, seeks mutually supportive dialog with sisters aspiring to or having successfully combined avocations, activism into full life's work.

JANNE MARIE DANIELS
(MI-M4094-K8811-87)
SWM, born 1947, TG, 5'9", 160, 14, blue eyes. Mbr Crossroads, IFGE. Have undergone electrolysis and permanent cosmetics. Enjoy reading, bicycling, rustic camping, and wearing women's clothes.

ROBIN J.
(MI-M4209-K9498-83)
SW bi-TV. Dressing since childhood. Interested in autdaors, old pickups and feminine dressing in shart skirts and heels. Not passable, but would ta emerge part time. Help and support wanted from anyane. Laaking forward ta hearing fram you.

CHARLOTTEYATES
(MI-M5445-K12696-82)
I am a member of Cross Roads, but not active. I have just started into transgender interests this last year. I'm not sure what interest I will have.

MICHELLE WILSON
(MI-P-M5098-K11064-81)
MWM TV with strong TS tendencies. Seek others for correspondence, friendship and adventure. 5'10" and becoming a shapely 14/16 gal. Interests: quality management, electranics, vintage aircraft, camping and backpacking. Love to meet others and be escorted shopping, dining, movies, etc.

SUZY D.
(MI-P-M5154-K11385-82)
Mbr Crossroads. 40s, 5'6", 140. Very feminine, passable CD who loves being a lady in all respects. Would like very much to correspond with sisters & gentlemen interested in our special world. Will respand ta all!

CHRISTINE EVERS
(MI-M6341-K5457-82)
SWM bi-TV. A mature, experienced 62-year-old crassdresser. Lave lingerie, hose, heels, and all of being a waman. Desire correspondence and meeting ather TV/TSs or ather interested males, females, and couples.

FRAN C.
(MI-P-M5813-K8743-82)
Tall, mbr Cross Roads, near Detroit. I have been out for about 4 years. I look good as a female. Open ta new things. Nat afraid af a challenge. It makes life worth living. Single and employed. Late 40s, in goad health and very discreet. Love heels. I go out a lot and enjoy life a lot. Love to have fun.

JULIA A.
(MI-P-M6289-K14025-81)
DMCD, 52, mbr Crossroads, attended Be All '96. Pass most of the time. Enjoy going out as Julia. ballroom/country dancing, fishing, backpacking, photography. Drive 18-wheeler OTR for a living. Bi-curious. Will try ta answer any who write. Your phata gets mine.

SHAWNA C. TIOLI
(MI-P-M6453-K14927-83)
Lifelong CD/TS. Mid-40s, younger at heart. Planning SRS in year 2000. Love GGs, but I admit ta bi-curiasity. Very single and open to pen pals, friends, support, dates, and a lang term relationship. I will answer all who write.

WISCONSIN

LAVERNE ATHERTON
(WI-P-M0529-K1137-83)
Pre-op TS, 5'7", 160, blue eyes, brown or whatever color wig I decide to wear. Born August, 1949. I wish ta write ta or talk to anyone who wishes to write or talk to me. My interests are many and varied: WW II history, '50/60s music, classical, jazz, blues, falk, rock, photography, model railroading, aircraft, sci-fi, Star Trek, fictian and all things feminine. Will answer all.

FRANCINE RENAE
(WI-P-M3263-K6403-82)
There's nathing more ta life than everyday living, there's loving, sharing, haping, giving. I'm new at this, constantly learning. To meet my sisters I'm still yearning. I've met a few, which is great. Our friendship is first rate. We can be ourselves, that is true. Let's correspond & be friends, too.

TANYA K.
(WI-P-M3275-K4933-82)
MWM, 5'10", 195, professional, callege grad, ex-military. Interests include religion, family, music, and aviation. CD since childhoad. Dress in hotel, but want ta ga out. Family daes not know. Hope to tell wife. Like elegant styles and classic businesswaman look. Would like to hear from thase with similar interests.

CATHY A. BROWN
(WI-P-M3698-K8037-85)
Single, 5'9", 160, 39 and holding. Caring sensitive, been CD since early childhood. Completely enjoy and am praud af my feminine self. Would like to correspond/meet with sincere others for letter and photo exchange, girl talk, fashion, public outings, photography and mutual support.

LAURA B.
(WI-NP-M4513-K5814-81)
5'6", 170, blue eyes. Mbr Tri-ess Chi Chapter & Gemini Gender Graup. Just started to go out dressed in public. What a great feeling! Pass with no problem. Looking for friends for outings to help improve my femme self. Tired of hiding.

GINA J.
(WI-P-M4632-K10214-84)
Tall, slender, 11, TV/TG. Dressing and being dressed since childhood. Interests include building, teaching English as a second language, travel, fashion (!), modeling (!!). Would love to hear fram other TV/TGs, and serious, secure, marriage-minded men.

T.P.
(WI-M5003-K8284-84)
Hi! Am a lifelong crossdresser eager to integrate a healthy masculine and feminine. Alsa want a stronger spiritual life that incarparates both my masculine and feminine.

RANDY D
(WI-M5124-K11175-81)
DWM, 5'7", 120. Creative skilled craftsman. Enjoy woodwrking, art, antiques, auta racing. Lifelong TG feelings. Bi-curiaus. Dress every day. Finally able to be who I was meant to be. Looking far friendships or more & help coming out from GG ar TG. Entertain at home. Photo appreciated.

SHANNON D. **(WI-M5526-K11487-81)**
SWM, 32, who has strong TS feelings seeks pre- or post-op TSs as big sisters to tenderly and discreetly guide me down the road to feminizatian. Attracted to lesbian TSs. Eventually seek to relocate to SF, Flarida, or ??

HEATHER ANNE NAPIER
(WI-P-M5539-K12153-84)
TS, mbr IFGE, AEGIS, Renaissance, ETVC and Tri-Ess. Progressed to full time over a period of nearly 10 years; harmanes the last several. A tomboy with a tomcat (we're "fixed"), live quietly and enjoy the autdoors. Will share stories of my experiences with others on this journey.

MINNESOTA

JENNIFER O.
(MN-P-M0570-K1161-83)
Mbr. CLCC, 6'2", 180. Attended several Fantasia Fair and Be All events. Interested in classical organ music, racquetball and investing. Married to a warm and supportive spouse. I like to express my feminine side at home and accasianal local club meetings.

VANESSA SHERIDAN
(MN-P-M1168-K1159-84)
Married CD with suppartive spouse. Author of Crass Purpases: on Being Christian and Crossgendered. Openly transgendered Christian seminary student. Public speaker/presenter, writer on transgender issues and Christian spirituality. Lave going out, all things feminine.

DEBBIE DAVIS
(MN-P-M2396-K3143-87)
Director, Gender Education Center. VP, CLCC; Exec. Board, Lambda Justice Center. Married CD, 5'9", 12/14. Love being feminine & have fully accepted my feminine self. In public often. Direct extensive outreach and traing programs. Present at universities, medical and professional groups. Love sailing, wind surfing, water skiing, computing and SHOPPING.

DOUG D.
(MN-M6224-K13730-81)
Educated, employed SWM, 30s, 190#, B/B, NS, LD, interested in film, literature, arts and more. Seeking TS wamen for friendship and possible LTR who is attractive, feminine, romantic and

passionate about intelligent investigation of the world around her.

DIANE H.
(MN-M6451-K14910-83)
Tall, light brown hair, blue eyes. Mbr Alpha Zeta of Arizona. Interested in dressing and being as feminine as possible. Would love to find a sister in my area to get together with and explore all the different avenues of femininity.

ILLINOIS

MICHELE M.
(IL-P-M2125-K2516-88)
Married (with grade-schoolers) TG/CD, 5'11", birth year 1955, Scorpio, engineer, historian, musicologist, philosopher, scientist, intelligent, crazy, realist, introspective observer, explorer, loner, Taoist, calm, humorous, optimist, nonsmoker, sensitive, heterosexual, infrequent correspondent (family first ... Michele last).

PATTI W.
(IL-P-M2166-K2587-83)
Tall, fun-loving blonde who loves music, sports, going out, hypnosis and collecting hats and fans. Would love to meet or correspond with anyone who wants a 'nutty' girl friend.

JENNIFER RENEE T.
(IL-P-M2994-K51885-86)
Beautiful inside and outside. Lesbian pre-op transsexual woman. 5'11", 135, black hair, green eyes, tan skin. Twelve years living full time and now successfully working as a photographer and journalist. I want to met women or pre-op or post-op TSs, only. Friendship, maybe more. No men, please!

PRISCILLA B.
(IL-P-M3085-K5273-85)
Lifelong CD, married to an understanding, supportive spouse. Into corsets, elegant gowns, and party dresses. Seeking correspondence and phot exchange with TV/TSs and couples who are comfortable with this life-style. Can entertain and meet in the midwest. Would love to hear from you.

MISSOURI

TRISH ELAINE KASTEN
(MO-P-M4805-K10267-82)
Pre-op TS, 5'11", 143, 33. Interested in sharing experiences, strength, and hopes. I am also a recovering alcoholic and addict. Six years. Has anyone else found recovery? Photo and phone gets same, but not required.

KANSAS

SHELLY H.
(KS-P-M4627-K10171-82)
SW pre-op TS, 5'7", 150, 50. Member WTA. Have started transition and love it. Seeking friends and looking for SO to share my life with. I'm caring, loving and accepting. Love good music and crosswords. Varied other interests. Please write. Will answer all.

VERONICA MOELLER
(KS-P-M4893-K8412-83)
SWM TG, 5'7", 40, 145. Professional. Enjoy classical music, reading, movies, coffee shops and outdoors. Passable. I am moving towards TS and full time living. Seek friends to lend advice and experiences.

NEBRASKA

DEBRA ANN E.
(NE-P-M1655-K1347-82)
Am fully out in my home town. Live about 25% as Deb. My loving wife, family and friends are educating alliance to what gender issues are all about. If you would like help in coming out, please write. We will gladly help.

TAMI DIANE
(NE-M3284-K6480-82)
I enjoy all that is feminine & wish to become more involved in the TV/TS community. Passable, 5'11", 37. Interested in making friends who are interested in our feminine ways. Intelligent, educated, & discreet. Enjoy going out en femme. Would like to meet sincere, understanding TV/TSs & genetic females for friendship.

JANET MELISSA B.
(NE-M6036-K11170-83)
Sweet Lord Jesus, please say to me, "Talitha Koum!" Hi Girls, special recognition (God Bless) Linda B. of Texas. Sorry my handwriting has deteriorated, possible stroke! else I would have written several of you for prescription advice.

LOUISIANA

ALICE HEBERT
(LA-P-M2964-K5098-88)
Mbr Gulf Gender Alliance. I am married to a very understanding, supportive wife, & am my most relaxed when I am a woman. I love being out among my sisters, & would welcome corresponding with them.

JAMI B.
(LA-M3456-K7120-83)
44yo TG/TS. Unfolding self-awareness bittersweet. Love my children/spouse (fear loss), but coming home, at last. Working to stay grounded and in integrity. Introspective, analytical, nuts; talk too much. Rollerblading's second only to dancing as best exercise.

GINGER B.
(LA-M4366-K10089-84)
Financially independent, single, 6'1", 215, very infrequent CD needs a full-time French maid capable of caring for & sharing the good life on 15 acres with a home. You can live full time as a woman. Tell me about your dreams & needs. Let us trade letters & photos.

ANGEL ARVELLO
(LA-M6428-K12076-83)
INFO PLEASE: Anyone who has had surgery performed by Dr. Seghers in Brussels, please write, telling me about your experience, good or bad.

STEPHANIE LEE HART
(LA-P-M6413-K14402-86)
Pre-op TS, mbr Gulf Gender Alliance. I am an attractive TS looking for an understanding female for long-lasting relationship. Well educated and financially secure, however, feel incomplete without a mate. Ideal situation would be a F2M transgendered individual.

MICHELLE SCHEMANN
(IA-P-M5117-K11112-81)
MWM, 5'6", 150. Novice CD maybe Bi. Blessed with natural girlish figure. Finally exploring my femme self. Eager to share all aspects of feminine mystique & transformation. Have ventured out dressed. Looking for girlfriend to share ideas, experiences, fantasies, photos, etc.

ARKANSAS

LARRY D.
(AR-M5247-K10478-82)
MWM. Never had a desire to dress, but have had a lifelong desire to know & associate with those who do. I respect who you are, & would love to hear from anyone, especially in Arkansas & nearby states. Would you like an understanding man's point of view?

STACI B.
(AR-P-M5550-K12188-83)
WM CD, bi, 5'10", 150, 40s, brn/brn, 8. Married. Wife doesn't know, nor would she ever approve. Interests are classical music, travel, history, and anything feminine. Love anything SATIN, especially lingerie and gowns! Would love meeting beautiful CDs for shared interests. Good correspondent and love to write. Interested in photo exchanges and meetings. Love being the woman I am!

JEAN MARIE Z.
(AR-P-M6057-K13197-83)
S M-F TG, size 12, feisty little Gemini bitch is going full time in Bubbaville, Arkansas. She's a 50s Renaissance girl, open to diversity after flushing the toxic cultural conditioning from her veins. Seeking interaction with new age/shaman Wicca spirits. Your plumbing's not important, the wiring is.

OKLAHOMA

MEGAN STEWART
(OK-P-M5844-K12859-82)
SWM, 40, 5'10", 140, 36-32-35. Have extremely feminine shape and features. I want to leave the man behind and be who I am. Want to be someone's special lady. Looking for warm, loving, honest relationship. Please send a nice letter.

LESLIA ANN H.
(OK-M6456-K14947-83)
SWM, CD. Help me express my tendencies. Like to meet someone in Oklahoma City area. Searching for a supportive friend 25-30. Love everything feminine. Will respond to all.

TEXAS

LAURA TAYLOR
(TX-P-M1254-K1408-81)
CD, about 5'9", 170. Just love my time dressed and made up as a woman. Love to meet and write to other CDs. Off lots of weekdays for dress up sessions, shopping, lunch, etc.

TERRI G.
(TX-M1738-K1901-82)
SWM, 5'7", 165. Hobbies computers and music. Closet TV. Would like to improve appearance. Interested in hormones and how to increose breost development, ond in MtF surgery.

JANET MARIE B.
(TX-M2772-K4605-83)
New to the CD world, but have been one forever. Just cracking open the door and looking for advice, understanding, and most of all, friendship. Wish to explore newly acknowledged emotions and feelings with caring people.

CASEY COLE
(S TX-P-M1907-K2196-87)
SWM hetero CD, 47, Austin, Texas area, Cofounder of Austin Second Image. Active in CD social support for fifteen years. Mbr ASI, ETVC. Attended every Texas T Porty. Personally answer ASI hot line Wed. 7-9 pm.

DANIELLE NOEL M.
(TX-M2691-K4242-83)
Moture, attroctive MWM, retired, 5'11". Ht/wt proportionate. Would like correspondence from CD and TGs in S. Texos area interested in orgonizing and participating in a social/support group for monthly get togethers and social activities in a secure environment. Replies confidential.

PHYLLIS RANDOLPH FRYE, ATTY
(TX-P-M2940-K4963-99)
Mbr of GCTC. Organizer of first International Conference on Transgender Law & Employment Policy. Out of closet & successful tronsgendered ottorney. Like helping people out of closets, fighting myths & stereotypes. Will speak on TG issues. It isn't '76, this is the '90s. Come out! You're an OK person. Don't put up with the guilt & shame lie.

LIANA JAMES
(TX-P-M2949-K5062-81)
Interests include photography, computers, travel and hoving fun! I will answer all who write.

NANCY BAKER
(TX-P-M3186-K6109-83)
Mbr B&P & ASI. Attended Texas T Party '92-'95. Married to loving & supportive wife who helps with wardrobe selection & overall look. Interested in meeting others for socializing & conversation. Enjoy corresponding with others who have experienced or ore interested in forced crossdressing & petticoot punishment.

P.C.
(TX-P-M3628-k7533-83)
Divorced hetero lifelong CD. My community doesn't understond or accept me. Would like to hear/meet friends or sisters in Central Texos. Are you as lonely with your true self as I am. Please write.

DARLENE E.
(TX-M5811-K0239-81)
Divorced. Stepping out of the closet in miniskirts and high heels. Would love to help start a CD club in NETX. Will answer all letters. Mbr IFGE, Metro-Plex CD Club.

JOHN C.
(TX-P-M4603-K10106-81)
SWM, 5'10, 175, brown hair, blue eyes, educoted, understanding of gender issues. Seek feminine, passable preop TS or other TG person 21-45 for quality relationship. Willing to correspond or travel to meet those interested. Photo, phone number oppreciated.

LEE G.
(TX-P-M4622-K10161-86)
Central Texos TG. Member of Austin Second Image. Interests are androgynous everyday dressing, long distonce motorcycle touring, the Gender Forum on America on Line. Interested in meeting others of a like mind and interests. Catch me online.

TOMMIE LYNN M.
(TX-P-M5260-K11678-86)
Hetero male, CD, 41. Graduated Texas A&M 1980. Work in electronic research and development. Fully dress for Metroplex CD Club meetings; partially at home. Enjoy photogrophy, R&R, *Stor Trek*. Correspondence is welcome.

JAN N.
(TX-M5402-K4271-83)
Pre-op TS in mid-30s, enjoy all aspects of being feminine. Interested in heoring from men, women, and other TSs who have an interest in special girls like me. Open to long term relationship. Appreciate all aspects of relationships.

WENDY ROSE CAMPBELL
(TX-M5411-K5233-84)
SWM, pre-op TS, 6', 175. On hormones since 1987. Living full time os o woman since 1994. Interests: computers, cooking, doncing, travel and c/w music. Grod. Cornell ond Cordon Bleu, Paris. Wish to correspond/meet other TS/TG in Corpus Christi area.

BETTIE ANN A.
(TX-P-M5616-K10064-84)
Mbr Delta Omega, Irving, Texas. Hetero, 62, 5'9, 150, widower. Wife was supportive. Crossdressing since age 12. I prefer living as a woman most of my free time. Enjoy going out. Possable? No one has soid onything, & I never asked. I'm just an older woman.

MARLENE D.
(TX-P-M5665-K11032-81)
SWM hetero CD, fetish, fontosy dresser. All my outer/underwear is black potent stretch leather. Ultrasheer, shiny 15 denier block seamless stockings. No pontyhose for this gal! 6" block patent spike stilettoheeled pumps with pointy toes. Please write.

PAMELA MARTINH
(TX-P-M6008-K8649-83)
TG, bi, 50, 5'8", 130, size 9. Live alone, en femme. I'm interested in all things intimote, feminine, loving, mysticol. I like candle light, music, cuddling, camping. I want to correspond ond exchonge photos with like-minded people. Peoce and love to you.

JANA CLARK
(TX-P-M6060-K13209-83)
CD, 40s, 5'9", 160. Started dressing again after yeors of suppressed feelings. Interested in hearing from attractive, fem-looking TV or pre-op TS to share experiences with and possibly help me find my true inner self. Photo appreciated. What's your story?

KATE STEELE
(TX-P-M6071-K13237-87)
Centrol Texan, lifelong CD, partly out. ASI, Texos T '96. Seeking more opportunities to express myself, more friends in our community, more info about this life and how to dress for it. Welcome correspondence, contacts, socializing. Enjoy books, music, motorcycling.

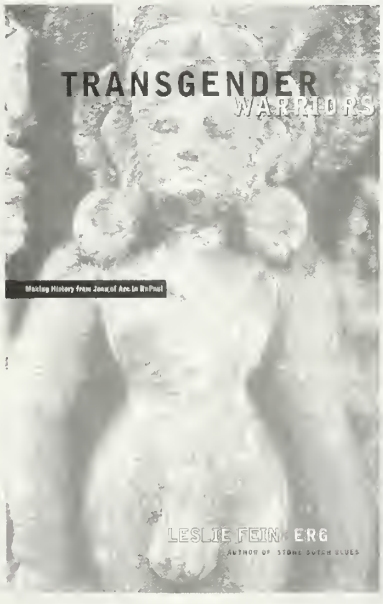
KRISTY MILLER
(TX-P-M6231-K13740-81)
SWM TV, 6'1", 31, 190. I om a sensitive, caring womon who likes to cook, reod poetry, and explore all aspects of being a woman. I always portroy a feminine image. Like to correspond ond meet with like-minded individuals.

The IFGE is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization providing outreach to and for the transgender community. Among its many other activities, IFGE publishes & distributes gender-related books, magazines and tapes.

Profits from all sales go toward promoting self-acceptance, public understanding, and inclusion of greater gender diversity in society at large. Our office is located at 123 Moody Street, Waltham, MA 02154

International Foundation for Gender Education

I F G E PUBLICATIONS CATALOG



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by Leslie Feinberg

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#164

$27.50

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Transgender

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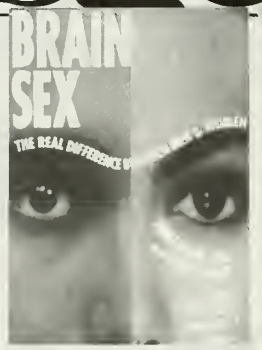

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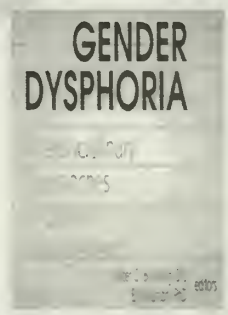

Gender Dysphoria

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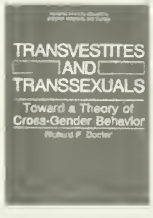

Transvestites & Transsexuals:

Toward a Theory of Cross-Gender Behavior

by Dr. Richard F. Docter

10 years of original research. Dr. Richard Docter has produced one of the finest scholarly works on the subjects of TV & TS ever written. Every community member should read this.

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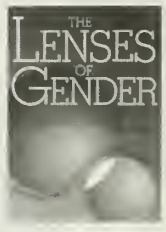

The Lenses of Gender

by Sandra Bem

The three lenses of the gender matrix: androcentrism, gender polarization, and biologic essentialism. How society views itself through these lenses contructs our contemporary perception of gender and gender roles.

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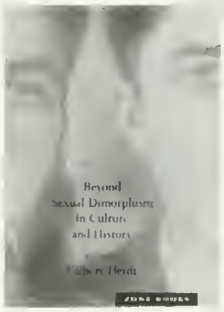
Transgender



Third Sex, Third Gender

Beyond Sexual Dimorphism in Culture and History

edited by Gilbert Herdt

This publication addresses alternative constructions of gender, showing how societies in other times and places have included space for sexual identities diverging from our notion of what is 'normal'.

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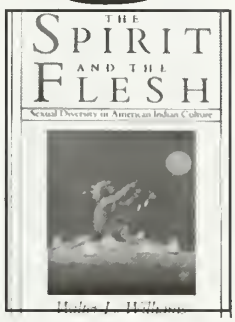

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Exploding the Myths of Male and Female

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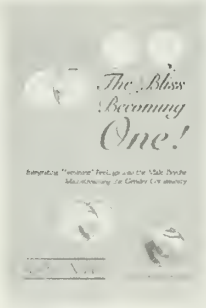

Bliss of Becoming One:

Integrating "Feminine" Feelings into the Male Psyche

by Rachel Miller

A heterosexual CD pens positive, supportive advice for CDs, partners, friends, family and society.

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Crossdressers & Those Who Share Their Lives

Hard Cover

Peggy Rudd, EdD.

Indispensable insights and advice for CDs and their partners.

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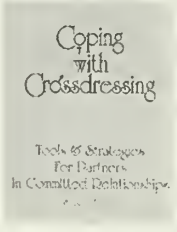

Coping With Crossdressing

by JoAnn Roberts

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Wives, Partners & Others

edited by Jan and Diane Dixon

A collection of editorials, articles, and letters of special interest to wives and significant others of crossdressers and the transgendered. Edited from the pages of *TV-TS Tapestry Journal.*

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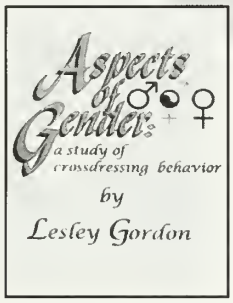
Crossdresser



Aspects of Gender

by Lesley Gordon

Why do people crossdress? Here's everything you always wanted to know about crossdressing but were afraid to consider! A great aid for the CD and the ones they love. An IFGE Publication.

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New

New

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A Study of CDs by a CD

Dr. Vernon Coleman, MB, ChB, DSc

1 in 10 men crossdresses, says leading British Medical authority and CD. "Brilliant." *The Good Book Guide*

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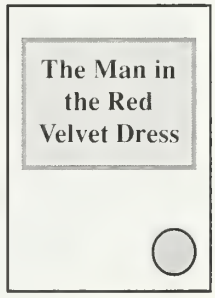

The Man in the Red Velvet Dress

Inside the World of Crossdressing

J. J. Allen

A CD and community member presents insights into crossdressing, crossdressers and the gender community. Highly personal and controversial.

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Transformations:

Crossdressers & Those Who Love Them

by Mariette Pathy Allen

The first book to focus on daily life, relationships, children and friends. Particularly helpful as an introduction to the subject of crossdressing to family members.

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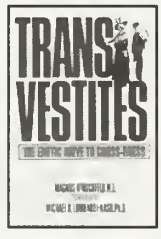
Transvestites

by Magnus Hirschfield, M.D.

This famous 1910 study on the erotic drive to crossdress, translated by Michael A. Lombardi-Nash, Ph.D., is considered one of the best in the field and is a 'must have' for any library.



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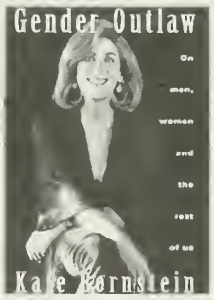

Gender Outlaw

On Men, Women & the Rest of Us.

by Kate Bornstein

Ms. Bornstein's lucid gift of humor and confrontation redefines gender in our society. Her observations on gender in gay and straight culture provide a fresh perspective on the fluidity of gender definition.

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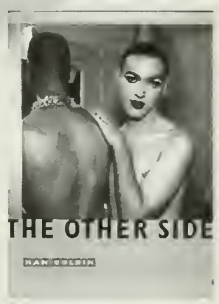

The Other Side

by Nan Goldin

"This book is about beauty. And about my love for my friends." Thus begins Ms. Goldin's photographic study of two decades in the lives of her TV/TS acquaintances. Stark, sensual, and honest, this tabletop style book captures those living on the edge of gender definition.

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by Majorie Garber

"T[illegible] ans- [illegible]00 page exploration of the nature and significance of crossdressing and of our fascination with it.

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From Masculine To Feminine & All Points In Between

by Jennifer Anne Stevens

Guide for any TV, CD, TS, SO, helping professional. Terms, wardrobe, make-up, body language, voice, hormones, cueing, significant others, living full time, the operation, growth, and more.

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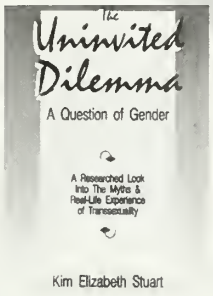

The Uninvited Dilemma:

A Question of Gender

by Kim E. Stuart

Stuart presents with compassion the condition and feelings of transsexuals with current and accurate information. A humanistic approach to this complex issue. Valuable to transsexuals and their significant others.

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by Stephanie Castle

One transsexual's explanation of a baffling condition. The Canadian author, twice married when male, details her transition and research for the benefit of others whose lives are touched by this phenomenon.

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Lynn and Jerry Montgomery

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A collection of editorials, articles, and letters dealing with the subject of M2F and F2M transsexual[illegible]ted from the *TV TS Tape*[illegible]83 through 5[illegible]

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Legal Aspects of Transsexualism

by Sr. Mary Elizabeth,SSE

Primary reference concerning legal issues and precedents. Limited supply of this reprint available.

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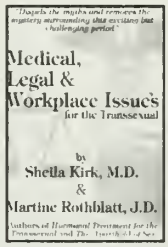

Medical, Legal and Workplace Issues for the Transsexual

Sheila Kirk, MD and
Martine Aliana Rothblatt, JD

The latest, legal, medical & surgical procedures for the M2F & F2M beginning, engaged in or completing the transitioning process. Recommended for health care professionals, legal advisors & employers.

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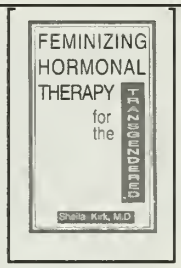

Feminizing Hormonal Therapy for the Transgendered

Sheila Kirk, MD

Expanded & updated... the most highly read & recommended book on safe, effective contragendered hormonal therapy; hormonal regimens; features natural hormones, measurement/self exam guidelines & commonly asked questions.

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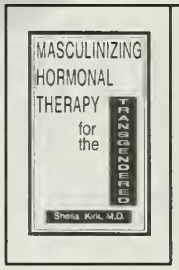

Masculinizing Hormonal Therapy for the Transgendered

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Revised, expanded & updated with the latest information on "masculinizing" hormonal therapy and on safe, effective regimens; realistic expectations and possible complications. Based on world wide medical research. A must for all F2Ms. 60 Pages

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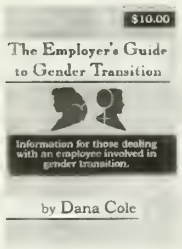

The Employer's Guide To Gender Transition

For all business leaders and upper-level management personnel dealing with a transsexual in transition in the workplace. The author lends her expertise as an educator to explain this pertinent information.

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Transsexuals

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Gerald Ramsey, Ph. D

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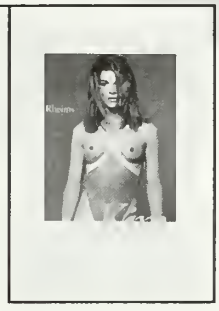

Kim: A True Story

Kim Harlow & Bettina Rheims

Stunningly beautiful photos of Kim highlight the story of her personal transformation.

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Stephanie Castle

A CD and TS struggle with self-acceptance, coming out and family issues

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Working with the Transgendered Client

Niela Miller, MS, LCSW, LMHC

A definitive introduction to counseling the transgendered person, whether CD, TS or anywhere between.

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A Tale of Sexual Masquerade

Gary Kates, Ph.D.

Biography of the spy, ambassador, Christian mystic, crossdresser and transgenderist whose anatomical gender was revealed only by death.

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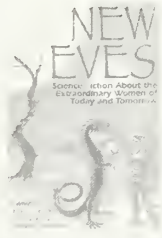

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Edited by Jean Marie Stine, J. Frank, F. J. Ackerman 30 + sci-fi stories from 1918-1995-including M2F and F2M, CD, TS etc. by Ursula LeGuin, Marion Zimmer Bradley, Anne McCaffrey.

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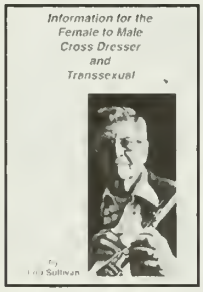

Information For The Female To Male Crossdresser & Transsexual

by Louis Sullivan

Addresses the unique issues and needs of the F2M. Includes passing tips, information on hormones, sex reassignment, & more.

Out Of Print

Stone Butch Blues

a novel by Leslie Feinberg

Woman or Man?That's the question that rages around Jess, clouding her life and her identity. This tale of Jess learning to accept the complexities of being a transgendered person in a world demanding simple explanations is insightful.

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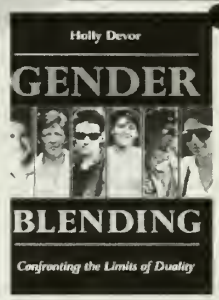

Gender Blending

Confronting the Limits of Duality

by Holly Devor, Ph.D.

A major contribution to the understanding of gender. Working with a small group of females who were frequently mistaken for men the social construction of gender and its implications are examined.

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by Rose Tremain

F2M Novel. "Skilled, intelligent, a sheer delight, storytelling at its best." The *Washington Post.*

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by Minnie Bruce Pratt

What do gestures of masculinity and feminity have to do with being a man or a woman? This intimate search by a ***partner of a transgender*** is powerful in its awe of human potential.

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From Female To Male

The Life of Jack Bee Garland

The fascinating story of a brave and compassionate soul, a pioneer explorer who ventured across gender boundaries before the turn of the 20th century.

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IFGE Audio

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Read by Nancy Nangeroni

What causes TS, how to get therapy, hormones, living full-time as a woman, SRS and beyond (from the pages of *Transgender/Tapestry*)!

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Masculinity, Femininity and Crossdressing

(audio)

Read by Alison Laing

Everything the CD needs to know: the blessings of CD, coming out to spouses, passing tips & much much more (from the pages of *Transgender/Tapestry*).

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Feminizing Your Voice:

How to Talk Like a Woman

(audio)

A compendium of tips, tricks and practical instruction for every M2F TG individual.

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GenderTalk:

Episodes of Nancy Nangeroni's hit talk show.

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2 episodes of Nancy's hit talk show

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"Intersexuality"
2 episodes of Nancy Nangeroni's hit talk show with Cheryl Chase & Dr. Anne Fausto-Sterling.

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Hormonal Treatment For The Transsexual

by Dr. Sheila Kirk

An overview for the professional. In-depth information about appropriate evaluation and monitoring of both the male-to-female and female-to-male patients. Medications and regimens, Bibliography. audiocasette, 70 min.

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The Operation

(video)

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Tape version of famed SRS surgeon Eugene Schrang's slide presentation on the "sex change" operation.

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Excellent!

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Hollywood Makeup Secrets

(video)

Jim Bridges

The makeup artist for *Penthouse* and *Dynasty* tells M2F TGs how to use cosmetics to feminize the male face.

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Bridges to Beauty

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Jim Bridges

Considered one of the best makeup videos for M2Fs ever made. Includes accessories as well. By the man who makes CDs, TSs, and DQs look so fabulous!

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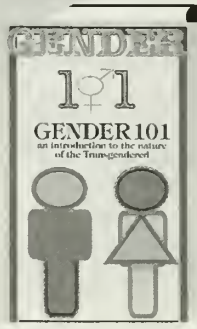

Gender 101

An Introduction to the Nature of theTransgendered; a video produced by IFGE. TV/TS/TG/SO? Through the shared experiences of some of the leaders in the gender community, the viewer gains understanding of the spirit of the transgendered.

1 VHS videocassette 40 minutes.

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What Sex Am I ?

Directed by Lee Grant

This film explores all aspects of gender identity: male-to-female and a female-to-male transsexual and cross-dressing. VHS **videocassette.**

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Metamorphosis: Man Into Woman

A documentary following Gary through a two year transition into Gaby. Featured on PBS. 58 min. VHS **videocassette.**

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Girl Talk

"Melanie Speaks" On Developing a Female Voice

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by Melanie Ann Phillips

This program provides you with all the steps needed to find your female voice.A valuable tool for improving and conditioning your newfound voice. 1 VHS **videocassette** 40 minutes.

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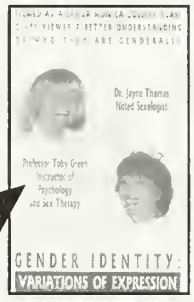
New



Gender Identity

Variations of Expression

Thorough explanation of transgenderism, filmed in a college classroom. Noted sexologist, Dr. Jayne Thomas, herself a transsexual, and Professor Toby Green are joined by 5 "living experts" who have and are dealing with this real life adjustment problem.

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Husbands & Wives, Best Friends & Lovers

Face-to-face discussions with crossdressers and their wives & partners as they explain how they deal with crossdressing in their relationships. 1 VHS **videocassete**, 83 minutes, produced by Donna Mobley.

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What Is Femininity?

by Alison Laing

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Coping With Crossdressing

by JoAnne Roberts

One of the best introductory videos for CDs and their loved ones

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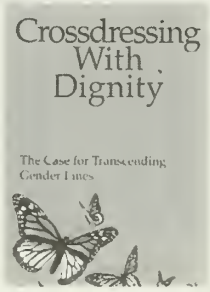
Crossdressing



Crossdressing with Dignity:

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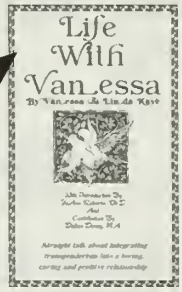

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LAURA DEJUNEU
(TX-P-M6457-K14952-83)
Friends needed! TG, on hormones, seeking females, TV/TS/CDs, males, for socializing, support and odventures. Enjoy going out to porties, shopping, dinner, etc. I'm fun-loving, educated, affectionate, and have o good sense of humor. Also seeking attractive female or TS for intimate or long term relationship.

COLORADO

MELISSA BLUE
(CO-P-M6305-K14117-81)
MWM, shy, closet CD/TG. Wife does not know, nor would she opprove. Love everything feminine. Wont to correspond with others and possible meet. Am very open-minded, so feel free to express your true self! Your letter and photo gets mine.

WYOMING

GINA S.
(WY-M5096-K11058-83)
MWM. mid-40s, CD/TG with TS inclinations. Seeking odvice and support to achieve goal in coming out and being able to live a female lifestyle. Wife knows, trying to accept, but nonsupportive. I have much to learn about my femininity. Hearing from my sisters would be a greot help.

VERONICA B.
(WY-P-M4969-K7113-84)
SWM, 150, 6', CD. Love everything feminine. Enjoy changing looks & trying new things. Like to heor from open-minded, fun-loving people & meet with those in my area.

IDAHO

GERRI BECKEN
(ID-P-M3230-K6299-83)
6'0", 160, 42, single CD/TV. Interested in reading romonce & Sci-Fi/fantasy, computers, long walks, & dressing. Will respond to all letters. Do pass in public. Please write.

GLORIA MARIE B.
(ID-M4849-K7915-84)
5'10 1/2", young 53, divorced TG. Would like to correspond with other TGs, single or married. I like camping, shopping, ond hot rods. Will onswer letters from interested females.

HEATHER WILKINS
(ID-M5741-K1-12608-81)
Married with loving wife. CD, mid-30s, closeted. Would like to help build support for out community in S. Idaho/E. Oregon. I am ready to meet sisters and brothers. Will cherish words of advice from anyone in 'the family' that has started a club.

ARIZONA

JENNIFER E. SAMSOL
(AZ-P-M1056-K1467-82)
Mbr A Rose. DWM, 6', 175, 47, warm, caring, open professional. Interested in cooking, all music except hard rock, metaphysics, hunting, fishing, computers, camping en femme, sunsets, horses, & dogs. Fond of gold clothes, heels, & blonde hair, but also enjoy tight skirts & tight blouses, etc. Travel quite a bit. Write.

TOMMIE F.
(AZ-P-M1158-K1453-84)
Lifelong TG has o possion for panties, heels, hosiery and other lingerie. Has o lorge collection of panties, bras & slips. Wants to hear from other undies lovers. Also likes minis, bosomy look. Will correspond with sisters. Exchange photos and lingerie.

LAURIE K.
(AZ-M2777-K4607-88)
Hetero CD, 5'7", 130, slender, feminine figure, pass eosily, considered realistic & attractive. Enjoy being sophisticoted, foshionable woman of good taste. Like art, theater, literature, antiques, architecture, interior design, music, vintage wines, & fashions. Love to meet/write CDs in Phoenix orea, elsewhere.

ASHLEY HUNTER
(AZ-M4888-K8301-84)
SWM, 46, with TS tendencies, seeking similar type for early stage explorotions, creative eroticism and monogamous love. Interests include stock markets, world travel and the mysteries of tronssexualism. Prefer financially secure individual into feminization and SRS.

CINDY N.
(AZ-P-M4047-K8782-82)
Mbr Alpho Zeto ond A-Rose since 1988. Hove supportive wife ond we both love photography, shopping and travel.

CATHERINE SMITH
(AZ-P-M5208-K11545-81)
SW, 33, Supporting Member IFGE. Very shy, self-employed carpenter speciolizing in kitchens and bath remodeling. Will work most anywhere. Interests include camping, music, reading, cooking, being creative, religion. No sexually explicit letters, please.

KATHLEEN RENEE C.
(AZ-P-M6174-K8646-84)
MWM, TV, late 50s, 6", mbr Tri-Ess. Enjoy Sci-Fi *(Trek, Bab 5, X-Files,* etc.), movies, reading. Love dressing. Still working on closet door; one foot out, other dragging. Would love to correspond with TVs, both locally and elsewhere.

DARYLE LEIGH JOHNSON
(AZ-M6461-K14366-83)
SWM, 38, 6'3", 200. Believe am Group 4 on Watson Table. Recently started electrolysis. Am exploring true self and hope to start hormones. Would like to correspond with others my height on the experience of transition ond occeptonce by society and family.

NEW MEXICO

RENEE G.
(NM-M4200-K7141-83)
35, 5'8", 145, closet CD. Love heels, hose, lace & lingerie. Interested in corresponding, photo exchange, & meeting some new friends. Will answer all.

NEVADA

CHRISTY BROWN
(NV-P-M6201-K13517-81)
Reno TV, 28, 5'10", 130, feminine, clean, sincere, single eosy going. Enjoy going out, modeling, meeting people, videos, photography, quiet nights at home. Seek open-minded friendships and more. Dates with men. Short skirts, sexy dress, infontilism. Wish to be full time TV female.

TINA ANNE L.
(NV-M6414-K7183-84)
Mature, single, WM CD, retired, educoted, successful professionol. Passable, blessed with natural full feminine figure. Interested in developing friendship with women/couples/TVs, especially a mature, genetic woman, for rewarding letter and possible marriage.

SARAH P
(NV-P-M6249-K13841-81)
Pre-op TS, 21, about 5'8", 130, Las Vegas. In search of mony things, not the least of which is a way to moke my dreoms come true. All my life I've wanted nothing more thon to become a beoutiful woman. I've chosen 1997 os the year in which to do it. The support of others is always appreciated.

CALIFORNIA

HOLLY CROSS
(CA-P-M0279-K0188-99)
NOW RESIDES ON THE LEFT COAST. (P'TOWN WAS MORE FUN.) Got all the clothes here, sort of bored. Wont correspondence from California TVs, don't need any photos. I miss Tiffany Club and INNvestments. Send a phone number. I intend going to Fan Fair this fall. Let's make a deal.

LORRAINE HALL
(CA-P-M1150-K1648-84)
An older lady who ten years ago, after many years of denial, could no longer hide from who and what I was. I olwoys enjoy hearing from others with whom I con share triumphs, experiences and problems.

KATE GOLDMAN
(CA-P-M1652-K0760-86)
Passoble, 5'8", sz 12. Great sense of humor, discreet & sensitive. love sharing ideos with other girls. Like makeup, adventures, photography & 'puters. Want to achieve a totally fem imoge & persona. Out at last & loving it.

MELISSA M. FOSTER
(S CA-P-M2099-K1518-81)
WCD enjoys meeting people who have the same interests & that enjoy going out & having fun. I travel extensively & love meeting people & visiting groups. I am presently very involved in the community & very much enjoy helping those who are looking for info or help.

LISA HUNTER
(CA-M2112-K2522-84)
Have lived as a woman most of my life. Age 25, bisexual TV. Interested in pen-pals only.

CAROL LEE
(CA-M2798-K4622-82)
Heterosexual-oriented TV. I pass reasonably well. Am happy to correspond or meet similar individuals who are interested in photography, shopping, beautiful clothes, or just sharing our mutual interest in dressing.

JENNIFER H.
(CA-M5173-K1141-85)
Athletic 30-something San Francisco TV. Educated, fun-loving professional. Travel, love to dress, meet those interested in our 'sport.' Attend conventions, go out. Attractive, bright, blue eyes, brown hair, great sense of humor. Very attractive in both sports. Let's meet!

BOB DAVIS
(CA-M2620-K1631-84)
Mbr ETVC, Lady Like columnist, ETVC Cotillion judge, presenter 2nd Congress Sex & Gender. Collector TG books, periodicals & ephemera. Looking to buy, sell, trade and compare collections. All will be answered. Please be patient.

LUCY ANN JONES
(CA-M2833-K4704-84)
Mbr ETVC. Blue eyes, long auburn hair, 6'1", 180, post-op M-F (12-21-82) Biber Girl, 16T, self-employed computer consultant, voice coaching, & astrology. Pisces sun sign, moon, Scarpio rising, special relationships with Aries. Bi-lesbian in relationship with genetic female since 1983. Your SASE & photo gets mine.

JUDI BENSEN
(CA-P-M3063-K4877-81)
MWM, hetero CD. Wife has observed & assisted, but does not understand. I adore our feminine side. Been away for a while, am seeking pengals for better understanding.

KAY M.
(CA-M6375-K14391-82)
Mature CD, 60, bi, seek long-term CD friends who love writing, photography, good talk, caring and confiding, and the feminine psyche. I'm tall, curvy, enjoy many styles from stretch jeans to ultra-femme gowns and lingerie. Interested in the evolving CD identity. Please write. Let's enjoy!

BILLIE JEAN JONES
(CA-P-M3205-K6197-99)
Mbr ETVC, DVG, RGA, SGA, CGNIE, SLCC. Attended ETVC Cotillion, Fantasia Fair, Miss ETVC 1992. Late 30s (like 45), 6, 150, children (23, 20), 2nd marriage (whadda year!), Androgyne, gender bender, numerous scars, offbeat personality. Interested in blabbing, writing, photography, music, discavering diversity, living fully, making a difference, laughing. Publish *Genderflex*—Cantributors welcome. This is my real life.

LAURA RODGERS
(CA-P-M3627-K7688-83)
60+, 5'10", 160, retired. Member SGA. Long time CD/TV. No longer in closet. Enjoy going out to meetings, dinners, and in general enjoying relationships with other sisters. Would love to hear from you, especially Sacramento area.

KATRINA REED
(CA-P-M3677-K7999-83)
TG/TS Supportive wife. Pass as someone comfortable with ambiguity. Hormones since '85. The arts, literature, rural living, fashion. Buddhism and Deep-ecology teacher. Value authenticity, freedom of thought, humor, celebration, good friends. Seeking new friends in Southern California.

ANN SMITH
(CA-M4351-K9593-84)
Loving, warm, successful profes-sional interested in other successful, professional TVs. My goal is to understand the relationship between crossdressing and business/professional success. Want to meet and discuss this. Lifelong crossdresser. So. Cal.

LUCY ARMENDARIZ
(CA-M5712-K12652-81)
36-year-old bi-TV. I am fun-loving, open-minded. In sexy shape who enjoys wearing the same. I prefer other TVs with same interest. Please send photos. I will do the same. Let's go for it!

KAREN ADLER
(CA-P-M-5172-K11409-81)
I'm a good listener, friendly company, confident (135, 5'7") MTV. Maya Angelou's Phenamenal Woman says it best, '... when I try ta show them, they say they can't see, I say it's in the click of my heels, the sun af my smile, the grace of my style ... that's me ...'

GLENDA S.
(CA-P-M5388-K1175-83)
SWM, 38, 6'1", 180, size 11, tall, slender. Enjoy CD in tight clothes and becoming as sexy as I can. Wish to meet same or TV/TS. Exchange letters, photos, videos. Answer all. Have enjoyed all responses and exchanges since appearing in *Transgender Tapestry* and hope for many more.

RANDI GARNER
(CA-M5412-K7639-84)
TS full time. ETVC/SIS/Cal Dreaming '96. New to San Francisco after coming from small mountain tawn in No. Calif. Will answer all.

JAN JENSEN
(CA-M5494-K12112-84)
MWM, bi-TV/TS-inclined, 56, 6', 195, 18. Wife okay to a point. Dressed all my life. Wear lingerie at all times. Go out occasionally. Love everything femme. On hormones since '84. Love to hear from anyone self-employed. Design, fabricate, repair, restore race cars & street rods.

TERRY MILLER
(CA-M5837-K12810-86)
Very sexy bi-TV, 5'8", 150, 37 years old. I pass easily in mast situations. I love to go out on dates with interesting men, especially double dates with one af my TV sisters. Will answer all.

ANN C.
(CA-P-M5937-K12959-82)
Late 40s TG, 5'13", 180, cross-lived an hormones for 7 years in 80s, mucho denial since. Single, bi, but conflicted and closeted. Bipolar depressive. Lawyer, writer, singer/song writer, skier, golfer, self-employed professional editor. Need support, engagement, perspective!

REVANA ROSE
(CA-P-M6246-K1195-81)
29-year-old gender explarer inta living, loving, & learning. Enjoy shopping and dancing as "just a girl in the warld" with my adventuraus SO. Interests include counseling psychology, self-growth, cyberspace, metaphysics and crossdressing (duh). What's your story?

PATTY S.
(CA-P-M6420-K3207-83)
MTF TG, soft, feminine, pretty, domestic, always wear a dress. Want to hear from FTM TV/TG/TS and butch women interested in exploring role reversed relationship. Also interested in hearing from kind, discreet gentlemen.

HAWAII

ROBIE AISHA
(HI-P-M6178-K9963-84)
32-year-old TG "lesbian," still searching for identity. Not out yet. Looking for bi or lesbian females far

LTR. Planning to relocate to San Francisco by '98 for graduate school and to further explore self as a fine artist and a "lesbian." Still would like to hear from other Asian TGs and lesbians for Asia/USA support network. Send letter and photo.

KEVINA DONELLE
(HI-P-M6235-K0545-81)
CD finally accepting the finer things in life. Love tight, sexy clothes and long dresses. Coming out of closet. Enjoy shopping and dressing for pleasure. Also theater and fine wine. Love correspondence with sisters. A letter and photo gets mine. Write soon.

TRACY RYAN
(HI-P-M6511-K4534-84)
Cofounder of Hawaii Transgendered Outreach. Can be reached c/o them. Mostly involved in libertarian politics and the effort to decriminalize prostitution. I'm sorry, but I lack the time to keep up with pen pals. I will answer letters from those sharing my interests, or who plan to come to Hawaii.

OREGON

HEATHER M.
(OR-P-M4689-K9843-82)
6' MW TV, still in closet. Too nervous to venture out. Seek friends for correspondence. Enjoy cooking, history (BS), Sci-Fi, shopping and the world of femininity. Wonderful wife knows and is supportive to an extent. TS thoughts have been strong lately. Answer all with photo.

D.H.
(OR-M5951-K6466-82)
SWM, 50, wants LTR with TS/TV/TG/GG to come out with. Explore and provide support to. Ready to relocate. 5'11", 200, long blond hair. Especially drawn to drag queens and TVs who are submissive and sexy.

WASHINGTON

CHARLOTTE R.
(WA-P-M5190-K11441-81)
S retired CD, 6'6", 220. Crossdressed since youth, never in public. Love underwear and dressing with friends. Travel a lot. Need advice on makeup & clothes. Have lots of time. Would like to hear from sisters. World-wide story collection

BARBARA BARRETT
(WA-P-M0258-K0560-83)
Mbr NWGA, Emerald City. 5'10", 160 CD. Like music, fashion, movies, camping, meeting sisters. Have supportive SO. Comfortable with myself. Value friendship, honesty, sincerity, discretion. Enjoy small social gettogethers & CD events. New to Olympic Peninsula area. Will answer all.

BARBARA M.
(WA-P-M2458-K3421-82)
Mbr Emerald City, IFGE. 5'6", 150, gray hair. Out many years part time. Seem to pass, or people are kind and do not mention it. Joined TV group hoping to find friend to pal around with. Was better looking before auto accident.

LORRIE T.
(WA-P-M4057-K7891-82)
MWM, 49, 10. CD with supportive wife wishes to correspond with others. Very much want to make friends and dress one-on-one with other CDs in OR/WA. Not looking for sex, just good friends. Please write and I'll respond. Photo appreciated. Let's enjoy our feminine selves together.

STACI ELAINE DAVIS
(WA-P-M4919-K10876-84)
Feminine, DSWM lesbian TV. Love beauty in nature, music, feminine & caring relationships. I am a smoker, 6', 220. Love shopping & wearing all the things that other women do. I like to read *Transgender, Woman Talk* & watch daytime soaps.

ANN J.
(WA-M5800K12775-85)
Widower, mid-60s, mbr Emerald City, IFGE. Attended my first event, Esprit '97. Looking forward to many more. Enjoy travel, boating and aviation. Interested in developing friendships with other CD/TSs and accepting women who would enjoy sharing common interests.

TINA H.
(WA-P-M6337-K14287-82)
Attractive SW bi-TV, 40s, IFGE member. Been crossdressing since age 13. My passion is crossdressing and all things feminine. Love heels, hose, lace, lingerie. Would like to correspond and meet with other TVs and supportive ladies. Your photo gets mine. Will answer all.

CHRISTINE ADAMES
(WA-P-M6442-K4406-83)
Mbr Emerald City, 34, with understanding SO. Passable. Enjoy both contemporary and Victorian fashions. Would like to attend more public events and small social gatherings. I also like sailing, biking, nature, music, dancing, making friends. Would like to hear from sisters in the northwest and England. Peace!

ALASKA

BOBBIE WENDY TUCEY
(AK-P-M3314-K6591-83)
Mbr Berdache Society, Alaskan T-People. Attended Alaska Coronation '92, '93. WHM, 52, 5'5", 135. Supportive wife & grown & gone children. Interested in computers, art, play guitar & flute. Spend all my non-work time as a woman, & go out a lot. Love to communicate. Photo appreciated.

TRISH PLUMB
(AK-M3480-K7185-81)
I'm a 40-something CD. Would enjoy corresponding with other CDs, particularly those in Alaska. All letters will be answered.

DAKE or DE LANA
(AK-P-M6523-K14576-84)
55, 6'2", 220, 45-37-45. TS on hormones one year, B cup. Pre-op TS, love it and staying there. Daily a woman. Semiretired. Have permanent makeup eye brows and eye liner. Looking for committed relationship with same or female or on phone. Poor at letters.

CANADA

ROBYN V.
(CAN-P-M2449-K3392-82)
Mbr Gender Mosaic, Ottawa, & Xpressions, Toronto. Hetero TV, married, family, living SE Ontario. Like theater, classical & other music, skiing, & boating. Love to shop, dine and enjoy others en femme. Travel to NYC, Toronto, Ottawa & other cities. Could we get together sometime? Please write. Photos appreciated.

KAREN FOX
(CAN-P-M3140-K5888-81)
Mbr Xpressions. Been dressing since a teenager, now 45. Like the feel of stockings against shaved legs. Slowly getting the courage to go shopping in daylight in home town.

WENDY HOULE
(CAN-M4606-K10132-81)
Divorced, single parent with four children to take care of. TV/TS, late 30s, dressing all my life. Want to correspond and/or meet other CD/TS/GG for helping me to improve my femme side. Looking for help & support. No sex letters.

CHRISTINE B.
(CAN-P-M4486-K9701-85)
Tall, slim, blue-eyed brunette, hetero CD, early 40s. Interested in intelligent, sensitive, nonsexual correspondence with anyone who is either struggling or reveling in this difficult/joyous condition/opportunity life has presented to those of us who are gender gifted.

GLENDA T.
(CAN-M4809-K9040-84)
Mid-40s, hetero CD, mbr Cornbury. Never been out, but perhaps ... Interests include sports, travel, musical theatre. I'd like to meet/write supportive ladies and sisters in the Pacific northwest.

DAWNA TRACY
(CAN-P-M4787-K2066-83)

Mbr Xpressions (Toronto), Be All '92, surgery by '98, newspaper printed biography, Human Rights octivist, faced problems head on, gained respect with quiet pressure. Try it! Music, sketching, photography, trovel, laughter, seek serious correspondence, long term friends, conversation better than copulotion.

REBECCA ANN BENTLEY
(CAN-M5512-K12155-84)
6'3". Love dressing up in suits, high heels, stockings, makeup. Would like to hear from other CDs in the Kingston orea. Still looking to go out in public and to parties. I like movies, dancing. Sometimes I go to Toronto and Ottawa to help bring my feminine self out.

MICHELINE MONTREUIL
(CAN-P-M6067-K12255-83)
5'11", 45. Wish to meet ond visit her sisters in Conada and USA, mainly during summer and Christmos time. Like to dress, to live and to shop all week as a womon. Seeking new friends to do social activities together. Pleose write me, I will answer

MEXICO

GLADYS FERNANDEZ
(MEX-P-M6374-K3128-82)
Lifelong senior CD who passes well. Texos T ond Fantasia Fair. Was FF '86 Ms. Best Dresser. Enjoy shopping, theatre, dining out and intelligent conversation. Seek correspondence with other TVs and open-minded, mature men.

MONICA C. MIATELLO
(CAN-P-M5638-K9601-81)
MWM, professional. Striving for fulltime living with understanding SO. Likes: music, sports & making friends. Write if you have similar likes.

HUNGARY

ANDREA T.
(HUNGARY-M6425-K14778-83)
I om a TS journeying the hormones induced MtF transition ond enjoying every minute. Looking for like-minded gals to write, shore. I am free to visit or to invite. Let's share our sisterly adventure together.

BARBARA H.
(CAN-P-M6401-K14639-82)
Bi-DWM, mid-60s, 5'10", well educated. Enjoy trovel, reading (eclectic) and classical music. Closeted CD for post five years and like dressing at home. Desire to meet someone (in Alberta) to help in selecting clothes and makeup for a mature lady.

SWITZERLAND

CLAUDIA B.
(SWITZERLAND-P-M5334-K11843-81)
TS interested in meeting other TG sisters in USA/Europe. Love being feminine and ladylike. Often en femme in public. Like to correspond with other Transgender people.

BAHAMAS

VICKY S.
(BAHAMAS-P-M4639-K10237-83)
Have lived in Bahamos since age of 3 weeks. Married to supportive wife and have two supportive daughters aged 19 and 20. Have been looking for other TGs in Bahamas for 10 yeors. Wife is fearful of it coming out, but I live androgynously. Love to heor from anyone in or coming to the Bohamas.

AUSTRALIA

PETA WILSON
(AUSTRIA-P-M2516-K3664-81)
Aussie TG: olmost full-time. Love to correspond ond swap pics. Interests: music, film, clothes. Writer/author by profession.

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by Gina Kamentsky and Jonel Peterson

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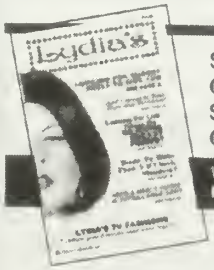

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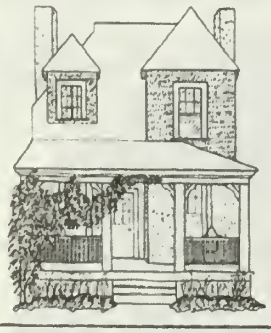

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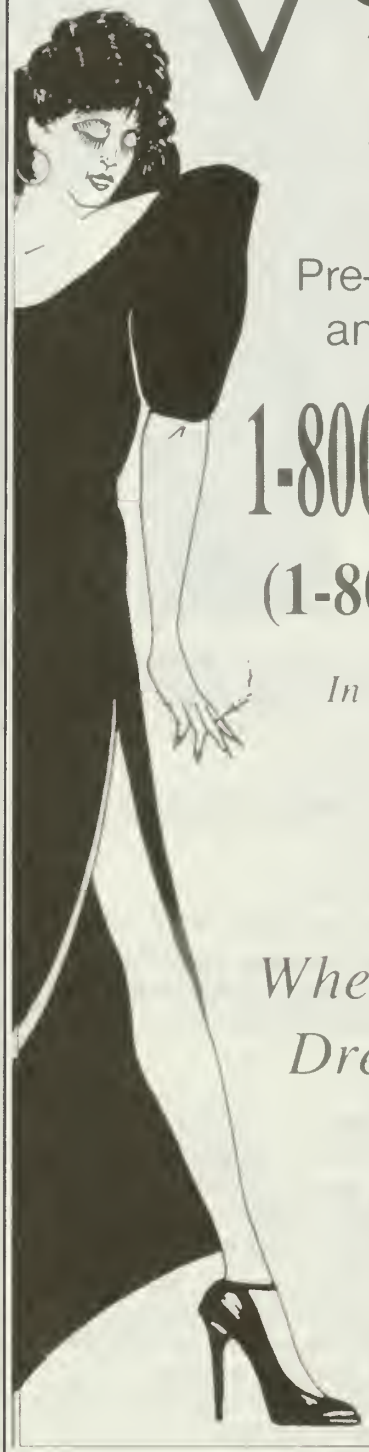

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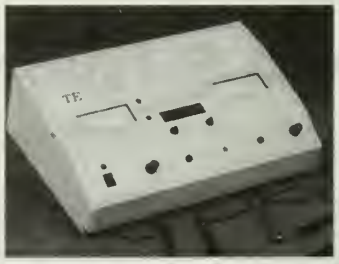

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a question very often on-the-spot when he was doing an interview. He would let things unfold. Every once in a while he would spontaneously pull somebody else out to do interviews. For example, he had me at Fantasia Fair doing interviews. He kept you on your toes. Working with him kept you amused and lively. It was a great pleasure.

Rosa seems to have captured deep, honest feelings through the way he interacted with people. Rosa has a way of making people comfortable in front of the camera. I think people could see how involved and empathetic he was. Also, he has a good sense of humor that would come up periodically and take everyone a little bit off guard. That worked well, too.

Photos: Mariette Pathy Allen

He was absolutely riveted by the F2Ms and occasionally would ask them some embarrassing questions. But mostly, he was very moved and intrigued by them. I don't think he had ever encountered or gotten to know any very well before. As a gay man, he's not usually sexually involved with women. But he was attracted to one F2M in particular. He and I were both attracted to that same person and it was kind of fun, we had a little rivalry going. I think one of the most moving and powerful segments of his film is the F2Ms in Atlanta, and the part on Leslie and Minnie Bruce Pratt that was shot in their apartment in New Jersey.

Another part that I think Rosa really enjoyed was the scene on the pier in New York. Chloe was there, Eva was dancing and Kim was roller-blading. We had the beautiful sunset lighting. It was just full of life and the variety of New York's flora and fauna that can only be found on the piers. He was just having a wonderful time.

Rosa also enjoyed shooting at Sally's with the sex workers. He just seemed to feel very comfortable and at ease with those people. (Interestingly, Lee Grant's favorite time on What Sex Am I? *was the night we spent shooting the sex workers at the Deja Vu in San Francisco.) Rosa could say whatever he wanted to and not have to worry about their reactions.*

I loved being a part of the documentary. I had a great time the evening we shot at Edelweiss, a famous TG bar, which was closed recently. It was a pick-up place, so I guess there were a lot of prostitutes there. Everybody knew that we were coming and they set up an area in the basement where we could shoot. All sorts of admirers and people who are part of the scene showed up. Of course, Eva and a number of other people participated who are no longer involved in that scene, but came back as if for a reunion. It was a party. It was hilarious. People sang, we had music and it was a wonderful scene. Everything was dripping wet because there'd been a lot of rain and the basement had flooded. There were old splatterings of white paint on the black walls and ceilings, so when the camera light shone on them they reflected back very glittery, hot images.

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

I got one of my all-time favorite photos down there, a black and white picture of Eva and Ruby who are very good friends and are looking at each other with love. And above their head is a television set where, I kid you not, was an image of John Wayne! I just love the surrealism.

A number of segments were dropped from the final, edited version of Transexual Menace. *(Actually, Rosa made three versions of the film: one for television, and two for motion picture theaters, one of which doesn't include the Fantasia Fair footage.) Rosa did a segment on Boy George doing a book signing which we all thought was actually pretty lame. We had all been excited at first. But, he had nothing interesting to say when people would talk to him. Rosa also did a lot of shooting in Atlanta at a female impersonator bar that he dropped from the documentary. He did a whole segment with Joan Jet Black, a drag artist who is running for president. It seems to me what those pieces have in common is that they concern drag. After all, the documentary is called* Transexual Menace.

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

The documentary was shown at a number of gay and lesbian film festivals: San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, Boston and other cities. Recently, it was shown in Japan. It was made for German and French television, but I don't think it's been on TV here. Generally, I would say the film has been very well received. Most people who have seen it, with a few notable exceptions, like it.

Some people felt that he could've shone more TG couples. Since this is a film that focuses on transsexuals, they felt there could have been more TS couples in relationships.

Other people felt there was too much focus on sex, the body, and sex workers. They felt that this focus cheapened the community. They were afraid people would think, "Oh, transgendered people, all they have on their minds is sex." But the body obviously is an issue that has to be considered and can't be ignored. You have the body and how do you treat it? Naturally, the documentary is going to show how it's changed. Then what else is there to say about the body? Obviously, who does the person want to relate to and how does that work in an altered body? So I think it's legitimate that those things would be included in this film.

To criticize a film because of that, I think, is sort of beside the point. Rosa himself is a very sexually-oriented man. It fascinates him. And he's the one who made the film after all. I feel that every work of art is biographical at some level, anyway. I felt that the way he handled sex workers, the body, sexuality all together was with respect, and not really in a very sensational manner. He shows Eva's transition from sex worker to shop owner and makeup artist.

His treatment was rather direct. It was sort of, so this is how it is, this is how it works, this is how I feel, this is what I need to do, this is who I like to interact with. It was informative and interesting. Personally, I could not feel any objection to it. Of course I may be more open-minded than most people.

(Mariette Pathy Allen is a long-time supporter of the TG community and the photographer/author of the book, Transformations: Crossdressers and Those who Love Them.*)*

A Better Man as a Woman

Love and the Partners of Crossdressers

Monica Jay

So what about the wives and girlfriends? How do they feel seeing their men dressed in femme garb, makeup and wig? Do they recognize him as the man they thought they knew? Are they intrigued, frightened, repelled, jealous? Where in all this do they fit in?

My mind went back to the small dinner party, a candle-lit, sumptuous affair which Gerald/ine and I had once given in honor of Alan and Margaret. Margaret, who had only recently learned about her husband's crossdressing after twenty years of marriage, had managed to go along with it, just barely. When Alan arrived as Ann for the occasion, he turned out to be a depressingly drab and sexless female in blacks and grays, specs and straight hair, with Margaret leaning affectionately on her arm. However, when Geraldine found she could no longer tolerate the dowdy apparition facing her across the dinner table, she took a delighted Ann into the bedroom to transform her into a glamorous and sexy female in satins and curls. However, Margaret could not cope with the situation at all, and promptly burst into tears sobbing helplessly, clamoring to go home.

It puzzled me. Why could Margaret go along with her husband in his thoroughly unattractive female image, but was so shaken when seeing him glamorous and sexy?

In due course, whenever I talked with women who partnered with CD men, I noticed that, with only the rarest exceptions, they were confused and often repelled, and most of all frightened.

I suppose that this is not too surprising, seeing that no one has as yet found a proper explanation for CD men. After all, we have always lived in fear of the unknown, of things that lurk in the dark, of forces we cannot understand or control. Long ago our ancestors trembled in fear of the elements because they could not comprehend them, and believed the solstice spelt doom. And even now in the 20th century, have we really advanced all that much when measured in terms of the vastness of the universe and of eternity? There are still so many fears inside us, fears of strange animals, fears of outer space, fears of what may be revealed in the recesses of the human mind, fears of humans who look and behave differently from ourselves.

When a woman sees the man she thinks she knows well suddenly transformed into a female, her first reaction is fear. I know, I have been there, too. The first time I saw Gerald "dressed" I felt that fear. My reason told me not to be silly, not to panic, that this was the same person I had spoken to only recently as Gerald, that this was the man I knew and loved, but my gut feelings told me differently.

Photo: Courtesy Monica Jay

They told me to be on my guard, to watch out for the unexpected, to distance myself. There was a moment when I had the overwhelming urge to escape, to immerse myself in the world I knew and understood, to get back to the familiar, to make a run for it.

Now, several years later, I am glad that I did not run away, that I stayed to face the challenge, that I was able to extend my love to the person hidden inside the unfamiliar outer facade. That I was able, eventually, to link with that inner person and in doing so experience a happiness which up till then I had not even dreamed of.

Do I want to tell other women to do the same? Yes! Yet I know very well that each one of us when it comes to the point, has to make her own decisions in these matters. That circumstances as well as personalities vary. That we all have to draw on the fund of experience with which we come to a given situation, that the sum total of these experiences is who we are at any given moment.

And I know, too, that the men who are CDs come in the same assortment as other men. There are the goodies and there are the badies, and none of them are saints.

When I asked Paddy, my very feminine woman friend, how she would feel if she were to find out that her boyfriend was a transvestite, her response was immediate, "Oh, I would not like it at all! When I am with a man, I want to be queen bee!"

Quite spontaneously Paddy had put into words what so many women feel, that a man who crossdresses is competing with their own femininity.

No doubt this is another great trial for many women when they see their lovers/husbands turn themselves into females, even when they have mastered the fear of the thing which they cannot comprehend any more than he can, even when they love their man so much that there is no way they are going to leave. There is the little matter of competition! Who exactly is the female in the home?

I came across Carol one night at a club, where she had accompanied her fiancee. Both were students who had fallen in love in between lectures, and it was only quite recently that they had set up house together. Carol seemed warm and compassionate, while also very much the emancipated modern young woman, wearing blue jeans and white tee, a short brown shirt, ponytail and no make-up whatsoever, in sharp contrast to the girls around us. I managed to get her into a corner where we could talk undisturbed.

Carol had accepted Simon's transvestitism when he had told her about it because she was in love with him. But now that they had moved in together and she had to live with it at close quarters, problems had begun to surface.

It was only natural after all, that Carol should want to go out of her way to make herself attractive to Simon. She took a lot of trouble over her make-up and her dress, enjoying the process, feeling lovely, soft and feminine. However, when Simon started to do exactly the same, somehow it took the excitement away for here

When Carol looked at Simon en femme she felt that he was outdoing her, that she could not possibly hope to match his skill, his dedication, his enthusiasm, or the results he was able to achieve. All her own little feminine ruses were only too familiar to him, and there were no surprises left. A fact which annoyed and peeved her.

"It has spoiled so much for me," she said, "I feel cheated out of a whole process of courting. I feel I am inadequate compared with him. Yet, at the same time, he is the only one who has been able to make me feel confident and feminine when I am naked, just me."

Carol told me that she has given up competing. In her own words, "If he can wear a dress, I can wear my jeans. Fair is fair."

But Brenda, a mother of two and the plucky little wife of Johnny, a CD postman, had different ideas. Brenda was possessed of plenty of native humor and common sense. The way she dealt with the situation was completely and uniquely her own, as down to earth and practical as was Brenda herself.

Brenda was a tolerant person who let her husband visit the club regularly on Saturday nights, without fuss, thinking it was no worse than him spending a night at the local pub. Every now and then she would come along with him. But there were aspects about the CD business which did not please her, and being the outspoken person that she was, she told him so.

Photo: Courtesy Monica Jay
Richard (Renee) and Deborah

She did not like it when he shaved his legs, something that Johnny needed to do before putting on nylon stockings. But on this Johnny would not give way, he could not possibly create a proper girl with hairy legs! However, the next point went to Brenda.

Brenda knew very well that her husband was 'turned on' every time he crossdressed, and there was no way that she would allow him to share her bed while he was in that state. She felt it was the clothes and not herself which aroused him, and she was not going to compete with that! So she devised the perfect

solution. Each time after Johnny had "dressed" she imposed a no-sex ban with Johnny spending the next two nights on the living room, while Brenda slept comfortably in the bedroom. Come the third night, Brenda reckoned that Johnny had got over 'it,' and she allowed him back into the marriage bed. As far as I know, the marriage works all right.

Probably the worst case of shock and fright that I have come across so far is how it went with Gordon and Cora. Like myself a few year earlier, Cora had been divorced, then let rooms in her house in order to make ends meet. Gordon had become her lodger. He was tall, dark and handsome, with an effervescent personality to match, and it was not too long before he got Cora into bed. He turned out to be a most exciting lover. There was romance in the air and Cora began to look forward to a long-term relationship, when Gordon told her that he was a CD.

Cora, who knew next to nothing about the subject could not visualize a thing, and soon put the matter right out of her mind. However, Gordon was very far from putting the matter out of his mind. His thoughts now revolved non-stop around a plan to introduce Cora to his alter-ego, Lolita. And as far as he was concerned, the sooner the better.

Soon Gordon's fertile mind had devised a plan. One night, not long after he had told Cora, he devoted himself to changing into Lolita, making himself look as attractive as he knew how. In Gordon's case, that meant that he dressed himself in as fetishistic a manner as possible. He put on a shiny and skin-tight black dress which barely covered his bottom and which draped itself sexily around his various curves. He showed off his long, well-shaped legs in black net stockings, and his feet in shiny black stilettos. He adorned himself further with large and strikingly patterned jewelry, then donned his long, fluffy, ebony-black wig. Further, he enhanced his features with strong and colorful makeup. He looked at his mirror image and approved.

It was about midnight, with Cora fast asleep in her bedroom, when Lolita opened her door and entered it softly, while inwardly trembling with excitement and anticipation. She willed herself to stroke Cora's forehead gently, then bent down to the sleeping woman and kissed her softly on the mouth.

Cora wakened from her sleep and opened her eyes slowly. What she saw was an apparition. A tarty, fetishistic, sex-threatening stranger who bore only the faintest resemblance to someone she had known before. There were the eyes, the nose, the voice. Slowly it dawned on her. And then she fainted.

Needless to say, that was the end of their romance.

Yet there are, actually, some women, and I do not think we shall ever know how many or how few, who really love to see their men crossdressed.

One night at the club I came across a charming young couple, engaged to be married. He had transformed into "her" for the night, with his fiancee, a pretty and clever little slip of a thing, clearly beaming him at him throughout and adoring the way he looked.

I made a point of getting her to myself for a while, and she told me, "Long ago I used to have dreams of being with a man who dressed up in women's clothing, and I did not even know it existed."

And then one day her fiance, Bill, unbeknown to her a CD, had telephoned her at her office and asked, "How do you want me to dress tonight?"

Whereupon the girlfriend had replied, "Why don't you put on your mother's things? just for a change?"

And he did!

A couple of Saturdays later, we were the only two women at the club. Nothing unusual in that. Sometimes I am the only one there. But this time there was this young wife, slim, sleek, and her long hair reaching down to her waist. She accepted her husband's femme self with alacrity and made quite a meal of it, talking about it non-stop. The girl who is her husband sitting opposite, purring.

"So what if he dresses? There's nothing wrong with it, they're still men, aren't they? Look at him, the darling. What a figure! No, why should I mind? He's lovely, and I don't care if he dresses."

Around us have gathered a number of the younger CDs. The effect on them is electric. They look at the little woman and their faces soften. Their eyes have a strong longing in them, dreamy, wistful, and they disguise nothing. They take their visual fill of what is to them the epitome of their dreams, the woman they're all fantasizing their little wife.

Let me sing here for a moment the praises of women. What adaptable creatures we are! Once smitten by our man, we will do anything, anything in the whole world, to make him happy. Love, true, all-embracing soul-devouring love is the key for that ability to adapt and accept. Our maternal instincts, too, need to protect and shield. Yet in going without we also receive back a hundredfold.

At this point I can visualize some of my feminist friends throwing down these pages and jumping up from their seats, to declare in protest, "Why is it always we who are expected to make all the adjustments and sacrifices?"

While it is perfectly true that over the centuries it was always we women who had to blot our personalities, our aims and longings, to make way to the superiority of men, while even now we share the earth with countless such women, women who still exist to provide convenient doormats for their masters, the acceptance of a mate's crossdressing surely comes under a different heading.

Renee and Deborah are a fully aware 20th century couple working out their own code of living. Unconventional it may be. But the proof of the pudding is in the eating, as they say.

I do not imagine for one single moment that Deborah. had actually ever previously dreamed of a lover who would turn himself into her wife! It was her deep love for Richard the man that enabled her to accept the "her" in him, accept her practically unconditionally, with only the proviso that he keep his male physique intact.

"I have always been attracted to men with soft personalities," Deborah told me, "gentle and open to deeper intimacy. Often, however, they had a lot of masculine traits that got in the way, such as always wanting control and keeping me at a safe distance emotionally.

"I met Renee in a vintage clothing store where I was working. She came in and asked if she could try on women's clothes, which surprised me, as she was dressed as a man and didn't seem gay. At the time I believed only gay men cross-dressed. I was attracted to her none-the-less, which confused me exceedingly! I thought, what a shame, such a nice man, too!

"As we became friends, I began to realize that she was also attracted to me, and was in fact only attracted to women. We fell head over heels in love, despite her crossdressing, and I might say, partly because of it. We had so much in common, and she was so eager to learn from me, I was flattered and having fun.

"She soon confessed to me that she loved me and wanted to be . . . my wife! Well! What was I to make of this? No one had ever so opened their heart to me or struck such a responsive chord in my being. Nor had I ever felt such abandon and joy in bed. Renee understood me through and through, our spirits were one.

"This brought up all sorts of anxieties, however. Was I a lesbian? What would my friends and family think? How could both of us be wives? I surely had no desire to be someone's husband! When we went out together and were ridiculed, could I handle it?

"Despite this, we moved in together. On top of coping with all the gender issues, we had to deal with all sorts of psychic and psychological debris from the past. But we were both committed to talking things out, no matter how painful and time-consuming.

"I felt Renee's need for validation as a woman and watched her thrive and grow happier as I nurtured and supported it. She, on the other hand, could whole-heartedly devote herself to rebuilding my mangled self-respect, supporting me emotionally, financially, even making me eat right, just like a mother!

"I have always wanted a family, but never found anyone I loved enough to actually pursue my dream with. With Renee I knew it would be right. Not easy by any means, but worth it, because she is my soulmate.

"I have never been so happy. I want to live with Renee, and no one else. I still ask her to dress as a boy with my family and old friends, and love to go out occasionally escorted by a man, it's fun! But at home we are two women, and in bed we are as one. I am satisfied. Renee has the occasional dream of taking hormones, but it would frighten me. I need the connection that intercourse provides for a male and female to be one. I can't imagine a substitute.

Guilt? No! I love Renee's spirit, regardless of how it is clothed, or which gender it chooses to manifest itself in. My advice to other women in love with a crossdresser? Enjoy the experience of having a sister, a friend, a mother, and above all a lover who can truly understand you from the inside."

Deborah's last sentence made me think of that beautifully penetrating remark made by Dustin Hoffman at the end of the film *Tootsie,* where he came clean with his lady love after she had discovered the awful truth, namely that the woman friend she had so admired, was in fact a guy: "I was a better man as a woman with you than I ever was with a woman as a man."

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(Monica Jay resides in the United Kingdom and is the world-famous author of Gerald/ine: For love of a transvestite, *filmed as* Just Like a Woman. *This article is excerpted from her forthcoming book, tentatively* titled The Secret World of Cross-dressers: When a man is just like a woman, *to be published in July 1998 by IFGE Books.)*

continued from page 29

other paperwork were "all screwed up." Then he said, "You look so much like the average woman, why don't we just say there was a mistake made 61-years-ago when you came out of the hospital because of your name."

Phillips, a semi-retired rare auto parts dealer born James, who lives outside of San Antonio, began crossdressing when she was three-years-old. At the age of eight, she went to see a Linda Darnell movie. "She was so beautiful," Phillips recounted lovingly. "I wanted to grow up to be just like her. I've used the name Linda ever since." For years she went back-and-forth from presenting herself as James to Linda, primarily for economic reasons. The day she realized that she didn't want to do that anymore, was the day she decided to only live as Linda—her true self. But she didn't want SRS. She did, however, want her legal documents to reflect who she really was. "All I wanted was an 'F.'"

Under her lawyer's watchful eye, Phillips took her first and middle male names, abbreviated them and inserted the name Linda. Then he applied for a hearing before a Dallas judge declaring that the physician who delivered her had marked the wrong gender box. Her attorney added that Linda was preparing to retire and wanted to get all of her paperwork in order.

Never dreaming that the woman he was looking at was transgendered, Phillips recalls, "The judge took one look at me, and said, 'This mix-up must have been a real problem for you in your life, going around with the wrong sex designation on your paperwork.' Going along with the judge's response, in a poor-me voice, Phillips responded, "Yes, your honor, it has been hard."

The judge then ordered that all of her legal documents be corrected. Does Phillips feel like she pulled one over on the courts? "I didn't lie to the court," Phillips chuckled, she believes that socially and psychologically her gender is female. "I just left out a few important facts. It's what I call sneaking under the radar."

Phillips emphasizes that for those who plan to follow the legal route she pioneered appearance and attitude are all important. "In the F2M world it's not as hard to pass. But, if you're a 6 foot 4, 250-pounder looking to change your gender to female, you better be good. Be upbeat. Perfect your look. Don't rush it. It's better to be on hormones for more than six months to let them work their magic. Take pride in your appearance. Be conscious of your mannerisms. You may look in the mirror and see who you truly are, but a judge may not."

Frye suggests that picking the right lawyer is also a significant factor in obtaining a successful change of your legal gender. Laws vary from state to state, and the temperament of judges varies from courtroom to courtroom. Since there is very little in the way of case law in regard to getting the gender field changed on documents, there is plenty of legal room for an imaginative attorney to exploit. "There's a lot of things you can do especially if you're creative and if your lawyer's creative, and if you're lawyer's well-trained," Frye writes in her paper, "Legal Gender Change Without Surgery." "And that's the secret. If they can't conceive of clitoral hypertrophy; if their eyes wince every time they have to call you by the proper pronoun; if they're stumbling all over this in their minds, they're not the advocate for you. Body language really does communicate to a judge. It also communicates to opposing counsel."

For transgendered people living full time, having their documents match their outward gender, without or prior to SRS, means the freedom to decide if surgery is right for you. It means not being turned down for a job because of your records do not jibe with your appearance. It means not getting hassled by police because your driver's license indicates you are one gende4r and your apparel suggests another. It holds out the possibility of marriage with someone whose anatomy matches yours.

But for Phyllis Frye it's even more. "I think that this is a very emancipating thing in our community," she says. "I think that this will be another watershed...This is real freedom. Now we can all be legal and free from the 'have-to' of the scalpel."

Calendar of TG Events

October 1997

2-5: **Southern Comfort, Atlanta GA,** P.O. Box 77591, Atlanta GA, 30357 (open to **all** TG-identified people)

16-19: **Rainbow Spirit Convergence, Dixon Mountain NC,** (704)253-9882 (open to **all** TG-identified people)

19-26: **Fantasia Fair, Provincetown MA,** P. O. Box 2734, Boston MA 02208 (open to **all** TG-identified people)

30-Nov.1: **Fall Harvest, Omaha NE,** P.O. Box 3112, Omaha NE 68103 (open to all TG-identified people)

November 1997

12-16: **Holiday En Femme. CANCELED.**

12-16: **NGLTF Creating Change Conference, San Diego CA.** National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, 2320 17th St. NW, Washington DC 20004-2702.email: shyde@ngltf.org, phone 617-492-6393

January 1998

15-19: **Dignity Cruise/Holiday at Sea '98, Miami FL**, Tri-Ess/SPICE sponsored (800)247-7021. (heterosexual crossdressers and spouses).

22-25: **TCNE First Event,** PO Box, 2283, Woburn MA 01888 (open to **all** TG-identified people).

February 1998

20-22: **True Spirit Conference, Laurel MD,** PO Box 1118, Elkton MD, 21922 (female-to-male TS, CD and their friends and family)

26-3Mar: **Texas "T" Party, San Antonio TX,** PO Box 17, Bulverde TX 78163 (open to all TG-identified people)

March 1998

25-29: **12th Annual IFGE Convention, Toronto, Canada,** IFGE POB 229 Waltham MA 02254-0229, (617)899-2212, IFGE@World.STD.Com (open to all, workshops for FtMs, MtFs, S.O.s and professionals)

April 1998

29-May2: **California Dreamin' 98, San Francisco CA,** POB 1088, Yorba Linda CA 92686 (open to all TG-identified people)

May 1998

20-24: **9th Annual Esprit, Port Angeles WA,** PO Box 1101, Renton WA 98057 (open to all TG-identified people)

28-31: **Spring Fling, Provincetown**, POB 2283, Woburn MA 01888 (open to all TG-identified people)

June 1998

10-14: **Be All, Pittsburgh PA,** POB 15408, Pittsburg PA 15237 (open to all TG-identified people)

Send listings to Calendar Editor, Transgender Tapestry, PO.Box 229, Waltham MA 02254-0229

DIRECTORY OF ORGANIZATIONS

Listings in the Directory of Transgender Organizations are carried as a public service and are free to all not-for-profit groups serving the transgender community. Listings are as current and accurate as possible. If you know of a qualifying group or organization we are not listing, or if you are aware that one has closed, please write: Directory Editor c/o Transgender Tapestry, P.O. Box 229, Waltham, MA 02254-0229. IFGE is not responsible for any inconvenience or loss due to any inaccuracy in these listings. Listing does not imply endorsement by or affiliation with IFGE.
*Indicates organizations that did not respond to our last survey and whose existence we can not verify. These listings will be dropped with issue #83, unless members of these organizations are urged to contact us to confirm their continued existence.

INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL

TG-friendly - **ABLIED QUEER**: 1517 B. Missouri, Houston TX 77006. Email: james_e@iah.com.

FTM - **AMERICAN BOYZ**: Gary (410)392-3640. E-mail: FTM-admin@tantalus.clark.net.

ALL - **AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL GENDER INFORMATION SERVICE, Inc.:** AEGIS, PO Box 33724, Decatur GA 30033-0724. (770)939-0244 helpline, FAX (770)939-1770 E-mail: <aegis@mindspring.com>. Educational, mental health services and support group.

FTM - **FEMALE-TO-MALE INTERNATIONAL:** 5337 College Avenue, #142, Oakland CA 94618. Education, outreach.

ALL - **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSGENDER LAW AND EMPLOYMENT POLICY:** PO Box 35477, Houston TX 77235-5477. Annual conference on transgender legal and policy issues.

ALL - **INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR GENDER EDUCATION:** IFGE, Box 229, Waltham MA 02254-0229. (617)899-2212 FAX (617)899-5703. E-mail: ifge@world.std.com. Education, outreach, peer counseling. .

ALL - **DEAF/HARD OF HEARING/SI - JESS:** (202)547-9524 (tdd only). E-mail: 11mtanzar@gallua.gallaudet.edu.

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE: 2320 17th Street, NW, Washington DC 20009-2702. (202)332-6483 extension 3301, FAX (202)332-0207, TTY (202)332-6219. It is impossible to list all the gay and lesbian support groups. Write NGLTF for a referral to someone near you.

ALL - **OUTREACH INSTITUTE OF GENDER STUDIES:** OIGS, 126 Western Ave, Suite 246, Augusta ME 04330. Ariadne Kane, MEd, Director (207)621-0858. Programs for professionals.

ALL - **RENAISSANCE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION:** 987 Old Eagle School Rd., #719, Wayne PA 19087. (610)975-9119 (24 hrs). Email: angela@ren.org. Educational outreach and support group.

CD/TV - **SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF (TRI-ESS):** PO Box 194, Tulare CA 93275. Email: TRISINFO@AOL.COM Educational outreach and support group for heterosexual crossdressers. Write for referral to local chapter.

TRANSSEXUALS IN PRISON: c/o Roni Lynne Soubrette, 104 Quineveree Ct., Castle Rock WA 09611. Support group.

T.O.P.S. (Transgender Officers Protect & Serve): c/o Tony Barreto-Neto Exec. Dir., 3210 Tom Mathews Rd., Lakeland FL 33809. Phone 1-800-761-TOPS or (813)752-9226. E-mail: Tbhawk@aol.com. Social, employment, legal support.

ALABAMA (350-369)

*TS - **MONTGOMERY MEDICAL & PSYCHOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, INC.:** Montgomery Institute, PO Box 3361, Montgomery AL 35109. Jerry or Lynn Montgomery. (205)272-2726. Mental health services/support group.

TRI-S - **SIGMA RHO GAMMA:** SERGA, PO Box 16174, Huntsville AL 35802. Michelle Steadman, (205)880-9660. Support group.

TRI-S - **SIGMA RHO GAMMA SOUTH:** SERGA, PO Box 66286, Mobile AL 36660. Lisa Jackson. Support group.

ALASKA (995-999)

***ALASKAN T-PEOPLE:** c/o Bobbie Wendy Tucey, PO Box 670349, Chugiak AK 99567-0349. Support group.

TRI-S - **ALPHA KAPPA:** PO Box 5392, Ft. Richardson, AK 99505-0392. Support group.

ARIZONA (850-864)

CD/TS - **A ROSE:** PO Box 1738, Tempe AZ 85280-1738. (602) 488-0959 Support group.

*CD/TS/TG - **GENDER OUTLAWS:** PO Box 55863, Phoenix AZ 85078. (602) 274-9599. Hotline, professional referrals.

TRI-ESS - **ALPHA ZETA CHAPTER:** PO Box 1738, Tempe AZ 85280-1738. (602) 488-0959 WWW: http://users.aol.com/jessicaphx/alpha_za.htm. Support group.

***SORORITY**: support group for family, friends. (602)293-3456.

***WINGSPAN:** 422 North 4th Avenue, Tucson AZ 85705. Support group.

TRI-ESS - **TAU UPSILON:** 8802 E. Broadway Blvd. #145, Tucson AZ 85710. Phone: (520)296-3472.

*CD/TS/TG - **EVOLVER:** 416 E. 22nd St., Tucson AZ 85713. (520) 884-0541. Support group

ARKANSAS (716-729)

*CD/TS/TG/SO - **DANIELLE'S GETAWAY:** c/o Danielle Storm, PO Box 61, Jonesboro AR 72403-0061. Support group.

CD - **AR CD GROUP:** 2901 Massard Rd., Ft. Smith AR 72903-5212. Support group.

***METRO'ON OF CATALINA:** Focuses on study of the spiritual heritage of the Gallae the transgendered priestesses of Cybele and Attis. Email: gallae@azstarnet.com.

FTM - **ARKANSAS BOYZ:** AR Contact: Garin, (501) 443-3184; Email: Kwiggin@aol.com

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (900-960)

TRI-ESS - **ALPHA:** PO Box 411352, c/o Kathy Helms, Eagle Rock Station, Los Angeles CA 90041. Phone: (818)352-9448. Support group.

CD/TS - **CLUB CHERCHEZ LA FEMME:** PO Box 10873, Santa Ana CA 92711-0873. Send SASE for details. Private membership club.

*CD/TS - **ON THE SCENE NIGHT:** Marlayna Lacie, 1856 Cherry, #608, Long Beach CA 90806. Parties and socials.

CD/SO - **CROSSDRESSER HETEROSEXUAL INTERSOCIAL CLUB:** CHIC, PO Box 8487, Long Beach CA 90808. (818) 243-2442. Support group. Web site: http://www.transgender.or/tg/chic

*CD/TS - **GENDER EXPRESSIONS:** PO Box 816 Lakewood CA 90714. (310) 869-4241. Outreach coordination.

*CD - **CD SOCIAL GROUP:** PO Box 224, Montrose CA 91021.

*SO - **PATHFINDERS:** PO Box 2973, Corona CA 91718-2973. Support group for genetic women involved with the gender community.

*IS - **AIS SUPPORT GROUP:** c/o Sherri Groveman, 4203 Genessee Ave., #103-436, San Diego CA 92117-4950. Email: <aissg@aol.com>.

*CD/TS/SO - **BORN FREE:** PO Box 3822 Riverside CA 925519-3822. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **PSGV TRANSGENDERED SUPPORT:** 401 South Main Street, Ste. 104, Pomona CA 91765. (909)620-8987. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **NEUTRAL CORNER:** PO Box 12581, San Diego CA 92112. (619)685-3696. E-mail: E-mail: neutrlcrnr@aol.com. Support group.

*TG - **TRANS ACTION:** PO Box 632954, San Diego CA 92163-2954. Support/advocacy group.

SO - **LOVED ONES OF TRANSSEXUALS:** (714)786-6891. Support group.

*CD/TS - **PEOPLE EXPRESSING ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES:** PEAL, Gay and Lesbian Center, 12832 Garden Grove Blvd. #A, Garden Grove CA 92832. (714)534-0862, live Wed. 8:00-9:30. Monthly support group.

TRI-S - **TRI-CHI - TRI ESS:** PO Box 194, Tulare CA 93275. Phone: (209)688-9246. Support group.

TRI-S - **SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF:** c/o Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare CA 93275. (209)688-9246. Support group.

CD/TS - **ANDROGYNY**: Santa Monica, CA. Alan Swink, (213)962-9175. Support group.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA (940-960)

*FTM TS/TG - **TRANSMALE TASKFORCE**: 1259 El Camino Real, #151, Menlo Park CA 94025. (415) 780-9349. FTM support.

*CD/TS - **TRANSGENDER NATION SAN FRANCISCO:** 584 Castro, PO Box 288, San Francisco CA 94114-2588. (415)863-6717. Political action group.

*FTM TS - **FPSG:** 584 Castro, PO Box 410-990, San Francisco CA 94141-0990. Support group for FTM TSs of COLOR ONLY.

CD/TS/SO - **SAN FRANCISCO GENDER INFORMATION:** SFGI, 3637 Grand Ave., Suite C, Oakland, CA 94610-2029. Maintains database of TG resources for SF Bay area.

CD/TS/SO - **EDUCATIONAL TV CHANNEL:** ETVC, PO Box 426486 San Francisco CA 94142-6486. (415) 564-3246 hotline, BBS (415) 564-4903, Telzey (510)849-4112. Support group.

SO - **SIGNIFICANT OTHERS SUPPORT:** SOS, attn: Ginny Knuth, 2478 28th Ave., San Francisco CA 94116-2305. (415)644-1499. E-mail: ginny@sirius.com. Support group.

.CD/TS/SO - **DIABLOVALLEY GIRLS:** DVG, PO Box 272885, Concord CA 94527-2885. (510)937-8432. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **PACIFIC CENTER FOR HUMAN GROWTH**: 1250 Pine St., Ste. 301 Walnut Creek CA 94533. (510)939-7711. Support group.

FTM TS - **FTM INTERNATIONAL**: 5337 College Avenue, #142, Oakland CA 94618. Support group for FTM TSs.

CD/TS/SO - **PACIFIC CENTER FOR HUMAN GROWTH**: 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley CA 94705. (510)548-8283. I & R (510)841-6224. E-mail: paccent@pacbell.net. Web site: www.pacificenter.org Support group.

CD/TS - **SWAN'S INNER SORORITY:** PO Box 1423, San Jose CA 95109. 1-800-610-SWAN. (408)297-1423, FAX (408)993-8173. E-mail: sisht02@aol.com. Support group.

*GAY/LES/TG - **THE BILLY DEFRANK CENTER:** 175 Stockton Avenue, San Jose CA 95126. Support group.

*CD - **THURSDAY IRREGULARS:** c/o Joan Sheldon, PO Box 6541, San Jose CA 95150-6541. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **RAINBOW GENDER ASSOCIATION:** PO Box 700730, San Jose CA 95170. (408)984-4044 warmline. Support group.

*CD/TS - **REDWOOD EMPIRE SOCIAL GROUP:** PO BOX 1531, Sonoma CA 95476. (707)938-8029. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **SACRAMENTO GENDER ASSOCIATION:** PO Box 215456, Sacramento CA 95821. (916)482-7742. Support group.

TS - **LAMBDA COMMUNITY CENTER**: c/o Marsha, 919 - 20th St., Sacramento, CA 95814. Phone (916)729-8935 or (916)442-0185. Support and educational outreach.

TRI-S - **SIGMA SIGMA BETA - TRI-ESS SIERRA SILVER BELLES:** SSB, PO Box 19933, S. Lake Tahoe CA 96151. Support group.

COLORADO (800-816)

*SO - **TEENAGE KIDS OF TS:** TAKOTS, c/o Laurie Ciccotello, 1740 S. Buckley Road #6-178, Aurora CO 80017. Support group.

*CD/TS - **GENDER IDENTITY CENTER OF COLORADO, INC.**: GIC, 1455 Ammons Street, Suite 100, Lakewood CO 80215. (303)202-6466. Educational outreach.

*FTM - **FTM SUPPORT GROUP:** Meets third Wednesday at 7.00 pm. Call John (303)698-2385.

*TRI-S - **DELTA DENVER**: PO Box 11504, Denver CO 80211. Email: ladyblovly@aol.com. Support group.

*CD/TS - **SUPPORT GROUP OF PUEBLO:** PO Box 1918, Pueblo CO 81002. (719)543-6460. Support group.

CONNECTICUT (060-069)

CD/TS/SO - **CONNECTICUT OUTREACH SOCIETY:** COS, PO Box 162, Haddam, CT 06438. (860)657-4344. E-mail: ctsupport@geocities.com. Support group.

*TS/SO - **XX (TWENTY) CLUB:** PO Box 387, Hartford CT 06141-0387. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **P I GROUP:** PO Box 245, Haddam CT 06438-0245. Discreet photo, video, scanning and desktop publishing services.

CD - **connecticuTView:** c/o Denise Mason, PO Box 2281, Devon CT 06460. Email: Mason D@aol.com. Newsletter and directory.

DELAWARE (197-199)

*CD/TS- **TRANSSOCIETY SISTERS OF DELAWARE:** c/o Linda Marie, Ivy Hall, #6, Newark DE 19711. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **RENAISSANCE - DELAWARE CHAPTER:** PO Box 5656, Wilmington DE 19808. (302)376-1990. Support group.

FTM - **DELAWARE BOYZ**: Steve 302-856-7179 (Delaware)

FLORIDA (320-340)

*CD/TS/SO - **GENDER INFORM NETWORK OF GAINESVILLE:** GING, Gail Driaper, (904)332-8178. Referrals.

CD/TS/TG - **PANTRA:** PO Box 3426, Tallahassee FL 32315-3426.

TRI-ESS - **TAU LAMBDA:** PO Box 3426, Tallahassee FL 32315-3426.

TRI-ESS - **PHI EPSILON MU/CENTRAL FLORIDA SISTERS:** PO Box 3261, Winter Park FL 32790-3261. (407)382-8389. Email: DeniseSFL@aol.com. Website: http://www.horizon-usa.com/misc/fem.htm. Support group.

*CD/TS - **BUTTERFLIES OF THE WORLD:** For information contact April-Lynne Fowler, PO Box 2782, Orlando Fl 32802-2782. (407)841-3125. Support group.

FTM - **FLORIDA BOYZ**: David, Email: FTMOrlando@aol.com (Orlando, FL)
CD/TS - **FANTASIA:** 714 E. Colonial Dr., Orlando FL 32803-4639. Phone: (407)425-4527. E-mail: GLCS@flamingopark.com. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **SERENITY**: PO Box 307, Hollywood FL 33022. (954)436-9477. E-mail: susan@aol.com. Support group.

TRI-ESS - **GAMMA CHI BETA:** 12587 New Brittany Blvd., Ft. Myers, FL 33907.

*CD/TS/SO - **ANIMAS**: PO Box 420309 Miami FL 33242. Support group.

***GENDER CONGRUITY CENTER:** 9960 Center Park Blvd. South, #404, Boca Raton FL 33428. (800)328-2633.

CD/TS/SO - **STARBURST**: PO Box 17411, Clearwater FL 34622-0411. (813)523-8760. Support group.

*CD/TS - **TAMPA SISTERS:** TGIF, PO Box 272819, Tampa FL 33688-2819. (813)935-6848, Kimberly Westwood. Please leave contact information. Support group.

*TS - **ENCHANTE:** A.C.P, 1180 Cleveland St., Clearwater FL 34615. Phone: (813)845-0284, Jackie. Support group.

GEORGIA (300-319)

TRI-S - **SIGMA EPSILON**: PO Box 272, Rosewell GA 30077-0272. (770)552-4415. E-mail & Web site: http://pages.prodigy.com/kerrico/sigep.htm. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **AGE**: PO Box 77562, Atlanta GA 30357. (404) 223-5351. E-mail: ageinfo@aol.com. Web site: www.transgender.org/tg/age. Support group.

FTM - **GEORGIA BOYZ**: Star, Email: star@ellijay.com

HAWAII (967-969)

***HAWAII TRANSGENDERED OUTREACH:** PO Box 4530, Honolulu HI 96812-4530. (808)923-4270. Email: tghawaii@poi.net. Support group.

ILLINOIS (600-629)

***PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY:** PFTC, c/o Ellie Altman, Northbrook IL 60062. (847)564-9496, e-mail: EllieAlt@aol.com. Support group.

TRI-S - **CHI CHAPTER:** PO Box 40, Wood Dale IL 60191-0040. (630)262-8707. Email: chitriess@aol.com. Web site: http://users.aol.com/chitriess/trisss/chim ain.htm. Support group.

*TS - **THE SUNDAY SOCIETY:** PO Box 478850, Chicago IL 60647. Sampognaro and Louise L. Raeder, (312)486-3125, (312)252-7024, Sheila L. Support group.

*TG - **OUTPOST TRANSGENDER GROUP:** 123 W. Church, Champaign IL 61825. Elizabeth (217)359-5113. Email: bridgett@prairienet.org. Support group.

FTM - **ILLINOIS BOYZ**: (Champagne, III).: Jaqui: 618-235-5908; Email: jaquitv@aol.com

*SO - **TRANSGENDER SIGNIFICANT OTHERS**: Star (217)328-4469.. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **CHICAGO GENDER SOCIETY:** CGS, PO Box 578005, Chicago IL 60657. (708)863-7714. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **CENTRAL ILLINOIS GENDER ASSOCIATION:** CIGA, PO Box 1291, Galesburg, IL 61401. (309)343-5192, Jaque Rounds. Support group.

INDIANA (463-479)

*CD/TS/FTM/MTF/SO - **IGS** Attn: Linda BB, PO Box 425, Carmel IN 46032. Phone: (317)781-0834, Angela. Email: kaylin@iquest.net Support group.

FTM - **INDIANA BOYZ:** (Northern Indiana). Glen: Email: Glen22213@aol.com

*CD/TS/FTM/MTF/SO - **INDIANA CROSS-DRESSERS SOCIETY:** Phone: (219)929-8533. Email: claudiakl@aol.com. Support group.

*TG - **TRANSGENDER OUTREACH OF NORTHERN INDIANA** Attn: Linda BB, PO Box 425, Carmel IN 46032. Phone: (317)781-0834, Angela. Email: kaylin@iquest.net Support group.

CD/TS/SO/FTM/MTF - **IXE:** PO Box 20710, Indianapolis, IN 46220. (317)971-6976. Web site: http://members.aol.com/ixe/fish/ixe.html. Email: IXE@aol.com. Support group.

IOWA (500-528)

*CD/TS/SO - **RIVER CITY GENDER ALLIANCE:** RCGA, PO Box 680, Council Bluffs IA 51502-0680. (402)398-1255, E-mail: sgibbons@synergy.net. Support group.

TRI-S - **IOWA ARTISTRY:** Box 75, Cedar Rapids IA 52406. E-mail: wander5980@aol.com. Support group.

*TS - **PHOENIX:** E-mail: ASuper@AOL.com. Support group.

KANSAS (660-679)

CD/TS/SO - **CROSSDRESSERS AND FRIENDS:** CAF, Box 4092, Overland Park KS 66204. (913)791-3847. E-mail: jbfts@aol.com. Support group.

*CD/TS - **WICHITA TRANSGENDER ALLIANCE:** PO Box 16831, Wichita KS 67216-0831. Support group.

KENTUCKY (403-427)

*CD/TS/SO - **LOUISVILLE GENDER SOCIETY:** LGS, PO Box 5458, Louisville KY 40255-0458. (502)368-9918, Lori, (502)589-9556, Patricia. Support group.

FTM - **KENTUCKY BOYZ:** Lee, 502-549-5619; Email: alphavamp@aol.com (Lousville, KY)

LOUISIANA (700-714)

CD/TS/SO - GULF GENDER ALLIANCE: PO Box 56836, New Orleans LA 70156-6836. (504) 833-3046. E-mail: alycm@concentric.net TIAC@juno.net. Support group.

MAINE (038-047)

ALL - **TRANSUPPORT:** Box 17622, Portland ME 04112. (207) 945-3092. Support group.

ALL - **MAINE GENDER RESOURCE AND SUPPORT SERVICE:** c/o Jean Vermette, PO Box 1894, Bangor ME 04402-1894. (207)945-3092. Education, referrals, outreach.

FTM - **MAINE BOYZ:** PJ, pjmears@megalink.net (Maine)

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FTM - **DC BOYZ:** Adam: 301-585-3127; Email: Romandede@aol.com (Metro DC)

MARYLAND (206-218)

*CD/TS/CD - **THE CLUB VICTORIA:** Box 682, Bowie MD 20718. (301) 805-2255. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **TRANQUILITY (Renaissance affiliate):** c/o GLCC, 241 W. Chase St., Baltimore MD 21201. Support group.

BALTIMORE BOYZ: Mary (410)837-8888, Gary (410)392-3640.

***COUPLES' GROUP:** Maureen Carlson or Tambrey Zang (301)977-2403.

CD/TS/SO - **WASHINGTON-BALTIMORE ALLIANCE:** c/o H. Garfinkle, PO Box 1994, Silver Spring, MD 20915. (301)649-3960. Support group. Meets in DC Metro area.

TG/SO - **TRANSGENDER SUPPORT GROUP OF BALTIMORE:** c/o GLCCB (Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Baltimore), 241 W. Chase St., Baltimore MD 21201. Phone (410)837-5445 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. M-F or (410)837-8888 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. evenings. Peer and family support group. Monthly meetings.

MASSACHUSETTS (010-027)

CD/TS/SO - **SUNSHINE CLUB:** P.O. Box 564 Hadley, MA 01035-0564. (413)-586-5004. E-mail: sunshineclb@aol,com. Support group.

TS-FTM-SO - **EAST COAST FEMALE-TO-MALE GROUP:** P.O. Box 60585, Florence Station, Northampton, MA 01060. (413) 584-7616.

CD/TS - **THE MYRIAD NETWORK:** PO Box 288, Williamstown MA 01267. Support group.

ALL - **TIFFANY CLUB OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.:** TCNE, PO Box 2283, Woburn MA 01888-0483. (617)891-9325 (answered live Tuesdays 7:00-10:00pm ET). Support group.

SO - **TIFFANY CLUB WIVES' SUPPORT GROUP:** c/o TCNE, Inc., PO Box 2283, Woburn MA 01888-0483. (617)891-9325 (answered live Tuesdays 7:00-10:00pm ET). Support group.

*CD/TS - **REFLECTIONS:** PO Box 4002, East Dedham MA 02026. (617)323-6528. Support group and other services.

*TS/TG - **GENDER SUPPORT SERVICES FOR TSs (GISST):** (617)227-6216. Support group for TS/TGs with addiction issues. Meets in Boston.

FTM - **ENTERPRISE:** PO Box 629, Jamaica Plain MA 02130. (617)441-5165. FTM support group.

FTM - **THE OFFICERS' CLUB:** 123 Moody St., Waltham MA 02154. (617) 683-1095. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **AXA:** PO Box 38-0547, Cambridge MA 02238. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **INNVESTMENTS:** PO Box 2194, Orleans MA 02653. Support group.

CD/TS-FTM- **BOSTON BOYZ:** P.O. Box 229, Waltham, MA 02254-0229. (617) 899-2212. Email: F:rankie@home.welcomehome.org. Support Group

SO/FTM - **PARTNERS, FAMILY & FRIENDS OF FTM's**, Salem MA 01970. (508) 744-7213 Support Group

FTM/TS - **SALEM SUPPORT GROUP** - Salem, MA 01970. 508-744-7213.

CD/TS/SO/FTM/MTF - **WAYLAND HOUSE:** PO Box 3128, Shawsheen, MA 01810-0803. (508)358-5919. Social group.

TS - **MERISSA'S DISCUSSION GROUP:** PO Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778. (508)358-5919. Support group. All interested persons welcome.

MICHIGAN (480-499)

***CROSSROADS:** PO Box 1245, Royal Oak MI 48068-1245. Messages: (313)537-3267. Support group.

*CD/TS - **NATIONAL GENDER DYSPHORIA ORGANIZATION AND SUPPORT GROUP:** NGDO, PO Box 02732, Detroit MI 48202. Justina Williams, President, (313)842-5258. Education and support.

TRI-S - **THETA OMEGA GAMMA DETROIT:** c/o Tri-Ess, 8880 Bellaire B2, Suite 104, Houston TX 77036. (temporary). Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **I.M.E. OF WESTERN MICHIGAN:** PO Box 1153, Grand Rapids MI 49501. Web site: www.iserv.net/~ime. Support group.

FTM - **MICHIGAN BOYZ:** (Kalamazoo, MI). Jonathan, 616 345 9070; Email: tushu@complink.net

MINNESOTA (550-567)

*CD/TS/SO - **MINNESOTA FREEDOM OF GENDER EXPRESSION:** MFGE, Box 17945, St. Paul MN 55117. (612)220-9072 (voice-mail). Support group.

GENDER EDUCATION CENTER: GEC, PO Box 1861, Minneapolis MN 55311. Debra Davis, Director. (612)424-5445, FAX (612)424-8595. Educational outreach.

TRI-S - **BETA GAMMA:** Box 8591, Minneapolis MN 55408. (612) 870-8536. Email: triessbg@tri-esss.com. Web site: http://www.tri-ess.com. Support group.

DISTRICT 202: 2524 Nicollet Ave., So. Minneapolis MN 55408. (612)871-5559. Fax (612)871-1445. Safe place for GLBT youth.

CD - **CITY OF LAKES CROSSGENDER COMMUNITY:** CLCC, PO Box 16265, Minneapolis MN 55414. (612)229-3613. Support group.

TRANSGENDER HIV/AIDS PREVENTION PROGRAM: Human Sexuality, Dept. of Family Practice and Community Health, U Minnesota Medical School, 1300 So. 2nd Street, Suite 180, Minneapolis MN 55454. (612)625-1500, FAX (612)626-8311. Educational outreach.

MISSISSIPPI (386-396)

*CD/TS - **AURORA:** c/o Kim Brown, PO Box 1306, Florence MS 39073. (601)845-1328. Support group.

TRI-S - **BETA CHI MISSISSIPPI:** PO Box 31253, Jackson MS 39206-1253. Lee Frances, Secretary, (601)982-7678 (24 hrs). Support group.

MISSOURI (630-658)

*CD/TS/SO - **ST LOUIS GENDER FOUNDATION:** StLGF, PO Box 9433, St. Louis MO 63117. (314) 367-4128. StLGF@aol.com. Support group.

*CD/TS - **MID-AMERICA GENDER GROUP INFORMATION EXCHANGE:** MAGGIE, c/o St. Louis Gender Foundation, PO Box 9433, St. Louis MO 63117. Coalition.

*TS - **GENDER DYSPHORIA SUPPORT:** Stacey K. Connors, 1101 S. Liberty Drive, Liberty MO 64068. (816)792-0304. Support group.

TRI-S - **SIGMA MU:** PO Box 2502#298, Springfield Mo 65801. Phone: (417)831-3433. Email: LSolomon@mail.orion.org.

NEBRASKA (680-693)

CD/TS/SO - **RIVER CITY GENDER ALLIANCE:** RCGA, PO Box 3112, Omaha NE 68103. (402) 398-1255. E-mail: sgibbons@synergy.net. Support group.

NEVADA (890-898)

*TRI-S - **TAU UPSILON:** 8802 E. Broadway Blvd., #145, Tucson AZ 85710. (502) 296-3472. Support group.

TRI-S - **THETA UPSILON GAMMA:** PO Box 42401, Las Vegas NV 89116. (702) 387-3891. Email: sage@intermind.net. Web site: http://www.intermind.net/theta/theta.html. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **TURNABOUTS OF LAS VEGAS:** PO Box 927, Las Vegas NV 89125. (702) 222-7814. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **TRANSSEXUALS SUPPORT GROUP:** Leave a message for Marty, (702)594-7884. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **SILVER ROSE GENDER ASSOCIATION:** c/o Lynda Cheney, PO Box 1334, Carson City NV 89702. Email: lyndach@aol.com. Support group.

NEW HAMPSHIRE (030-038)

WRITERS ETC.: c/o Abby M. Greene, PO Box 6211, West Franklin NH 03235. (603) 934-3379. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **GENDER TALK NORTH:** PO Box 421, Peterboroough NH 03458. (603)924-8828. Email: gtnorth@top.monad.net. Web site: http://monad.net/~gtnorth/index.htm. Support group.

G/L/Bi./T/QYOUTH - **SEACOAST OUTRIGHT:** PO Box 842, Portsmouth NH 03802. Phone: (603)431-1013. Resource, referral, support for those 21 and younger; referral only for those over 21.

NEW JERSEY (070-088)

TRI-S - **SIGMA NU RHO:** SNR, 1092 St. Georges Ave., Suite 234, Rahway NJ 07065-2664. Phone: (908)826-5287. 24-hour hot-line (800)480-3152, in near states. E-mail: carolannsnr@juno.com. Support group.

*CD/TS - **JUMPSTART CABLE:** PO Box 622, Paramus NJ 07653. Support group.

TRI-S - **CHI DELTA MU:** PO Box 1, River Edge NJ 07661-0001. (800)484-7593(code4985). Support group. Internet: cdm@carroll.com

CD/TS/SO - **MONMOUTH/OCEAN TRANS GENDER:** MOTG, PO Box 8243, Red Bank NJ 07701. (732)219-9094. Email: vikkimmotg@aol.com. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **TRANSIT:** (908)526-2369. Support group.

*CD/SO - **EAST COAST COUPLES NETWORK:** ECCN, c/o MOG, PO Box 8243, Red Bank NJ 07701. Support group.

CD/TS - **NORTHERN NEW JERSEY:** c/o Ms. Lynda Frank, PO Box 9192, Morristown NJ 07960. (201)663-0772. Support group.

CD/TS - **NJSUPPORT:** c/o T. Risley, 301 F Saunders Ave., Bellmawr, NJ 08031. (609)933-2233. Meetings 1st Saturday of the month, Unitarian Universalist Church of Washington Crossing. Renaissance affiliate.

NEW MEXICO (870-884)

TRI-S - **PHI FIESTA!:** 8200 Montgomery NE, #241, Albuquerque NM 87109. Phone: (505)299-2533. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **SUPPORT GROUP:** c/o Stephanie, 2449 Algodones N.E., Albuquerque NM 87112. Support group.

NEW YORK (090-149)

*CD/TS - **TRANSGENDER RIGHTS! (TGR):** (212)979-8547. Political action group.

CD/TS/SO - **IMPERIAL QUEENS & KINGS OF GREATER NEW YORK:** 80 Eighth Avenue, Suite 301, New York NY 10011. (212)229-1968 days, (212)627-1969 evenings. Open social group.

FTM- **NEW YORK BOYZ:** Sam, Email: Email: srw18@columbia.edu (NYC)

*TS - **GENDER IDENTITY PROJECT:** Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 West 13th Street, New York NY 10011. (212)620-7310. Support group.

*CD/TS - **METROPOLITAN GENDER NETWORK:** 561 Hudson St, Box 45, New York NY 10014. (201)794-1665 ext. 332. Support group.

BI-GENDER RAP GROUP: c/o Lynda Frank, 330 W. 45th St. Apt. 3H, New York, NY 10036. Meets 2nd Monday each month, 6-8 pm in lower Manhattan. Contact: Lynda Frank, (212)765-3561.

CD/TS/SO - **CROSSDRESSERS INTL:** 404 W. 40th St., #2, New York NY 10018. (212)570-7389, or (610) 759-1761. E-mail: cdinyc@aol.com. Support group.

*TS/FTM/MTF - **MGN/STAR:** 214 16th Street, Brooklyn NY 11215. (718)965-2911. Email: directlink@mindspring.com. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **GIRLS' NIGHT OUT:** G.N.O., c/o Barbara Fortune, PO Box 350369, Brooklyn NY 11235-0007. (201)794-1665, ext 2021. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **NEW YORK GIRL & PARTNERS:** PO Box 456, Centereach NY 11720. (516)732-5115. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **LONG ISLAND FEMME EXPRESSION:** LIFE, PO Box 1311, Water Mill NY 11976-1311. (516)283-1333. Email: joed2viola@aol.com. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **TRANSGENDERISTS' INDEPENDENCE CLUB:** TGIC, PO Box 13604, Albany NY 12212-3604. (518)436-4513 live Thurs. 7-9 p.m. or leave a message and instructions for calling back. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **TRANSGENDER NETWORK:** PO Box 1611, South Rd Annex, Poughkeepsie NY 12601-0611. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **EXPRESSING OUR NATURE:** EON, PO Box 3586, Syracuse NY 13220. (315)423-4099. Support group.

TRI-S - **LAMBDA CHI LAMBDA:** PO Box 97, Ilion NY 13357. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **TRANSGENDER SOCIETY OF NORTHERN NEW YORK:** PO Box 6164, Watertown NY 13601. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **TG SOCIETY OF NORTHERN NY:** 26646 Smith Road, Dexter NY 13634. (315)649-5534. Support group.

TRI-S - **NU PHI CHI-BUFFALO BELLES:** P.O. Box 1701, Amherst NY 14226-1701. (716)643-2626. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **ROCHESTER CD-NETWORK:** PO Box 92055, Rochester NY 14692. (716)251-2132. Support group.

ALL - **L.I.T.E (LONG ISLAND TRANSGENDERED EXPRESSIONS):** PO Box 3015, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779-0471. Non-profit, social support group. Holds two monthly meetings. Interview required. Please call day or night. Phone (516)471-6037 after 7 p.m. or leave message.

TS - **METAMORPHOSIS:** PO Box 6260, Broadway Station, Long Island City, NY 11106-0260. (718)728-4615. Support group.

NORTH CAROLINA (270-289)

*CD/TS/SO - **TRIAD GENDER ASSOCIATION:** TGA, c/o Stephanie Dyla, PO Box 2265, Jamestown NC 28282-2264. (910)454-1493. Support group. http://www.geocities.com/westhollywood/8607/

***A CIRCLE OF CHILDREN:** Rt 5, PO Box 564, Zebulon NC 27579. Chris Allen, (919)269-8698. Support group.

*CD/TS - **GDANC SUPPORT GROUP:** PO Box 305, Salisbury NC 28145. (704)642 1914. Support group.

FTM - **NORTH CAROLINA BOYZ:** Terry: 919-639-6158; Email: TLCRD96@aol.com

CD/TS/SO - **CAROLINA TRANS-SENSUAL ALLIANCE:** PO Box 35378, Fayetteville, NC 28303-0378. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **AGO:** 1235-E East Blvd., Charlotte NC 28203. Alternative Gender-Oriented is group's full name.

TRI-S - **KAPPA BETA:** c/o Corresponding Secy, PO Box 12101, Charlotte NC 28220-2101. (704)565-5034. E-mail: dajones@infoave.net. Support group.

TRI-S - **CHI CHI RHO-TRI-ESS:** Crystal Coast Rose, PO Box 733, Bridgeton NC 28519. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **PHOENIX TRANSGENDER SUPPORT:** Phoenix, PO Box 18332, Asheville NC 28814. (704)253-9882. E-mail: jessicaash@aol.com. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **TRIANGLE GENDER SOCIETY (TGS):** c/o David & Helen Rogers, 5425 Turkey Farm Rd., Durham, NC 27705. Phone (919)968-8070. Support group.

NORTH DAKOTA

CD/TS/TV - **TRANSGENDER SUPPORT GROUP OF NORTH DAKOTA:** c/o Debbie Ann Somero, PO Box 644, Wahpeton, ND 58074-0644. Phone (701)642-1427. Support group.

OHIO (434-457)

*CD/TS/SO - **CRYSTAL CLUB:** PO Box 287, Columbus OH 43068-0287. (614)231-1368. Email: cc@stargatge.com. Support group.

***GLASS CITY SISTERS:** PO Box 8532, Toledo OH 43623. Email: glassister@al.com. Support group.

TRI-S - **ALPHA OMEGA:** Box 2053, Sheffield Lake OH 44054-0053. (216)556-0067. Support group.

*CD - **NORTH COAST PARADISE CLUB:** PO Box 29564, Cleveland OH 44129. Email: ParadiseCL@aol.com.

Support group established in 1977.

CD/TS/SO - **CROSS-PORT:** PO Box 1692, Cincinnati OH 45201. (606)581-3711, E-mail: wgbn68d@prodigy.com. Support group.

OKLAHOMA (730-749)

*CD/TS - **SOONER DIVERSITY:** PO Box 575, Norman OK 73070. Support group.

TRI-S - **SIGMA BETA:** PO Box 42122, Oklahoma City OK 73123. Support group.

*CD/TS - **CENTRAL OKLAHOMA TRANSGENDER ALLIANCE:** COTA PO Box 60354, Oklahoma City OK 73146. Support group.

*CD/TS - **CROSS DRESSERS INTERNATIONAL:** CDI c/o Ms Gwen Pete, PO Box 50192, Tulsa OK 74104. (918)582-6643/835-5334. Support group.

*CD/TS - **DESIRE:** c/o Ms. Gwen Pete, PO Box 50192, Tulsa OK 74104. Support group.

OREGON (970-979)

*TS/TG/TV - **THE TRANS GROUP:** c/o Phoenix Rising Foundation, 620 SW 5th Ave., Suite 710, Portland OR 97204. Phone: (503)223-8299. Support group.

*TS- **TRANSSEXUAL PEER SUPPORT GROUP:** c/o Phoenix Rising Foundation, 620 SW 5th Ave., Suite 710, Portland OR 97204. Phone: (503)223-8299. Support group.

CD - **NORTHWEST GENDER ALLIANCE:** NWGA, PO Box 4928, Portland OR 97208. (503)646-2802. E-mail: nwga@teleport.com. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **TRANS-PORT:** PO Box 66913, Portland OR 97290-6913. (503)774-8463. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **CAPITOL CITY CHAPTER:** PO Box 3312, Salem OR 97302. Support group.

TS - **SALMACIS SOCIETY/VERSITILE WOMEN:** PO Box 1604, Eugene OR 97440-1604. (541)688-4282. Service and information.

*TG - **INTERMOUNTAIN TRANSGENDER OUTREACH:** 1524 Monroe Avenue, La Grande OR 97850. (541)962-3466. Email: keol@eosc.osshe.edu. Support group.

TRI-S - **RHO GAMMA/ROGUE VALLEY GIRLS:** PO Box 5551, Grants Pass OR 97527.

PENNSYLVANIA (150-196)

*TS - **TRANSSEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP:** TSG, 6020 Penn Circle South, Pittsburgh PA 15206. (412)661-7030. Support group.

FTM - **PITBOYZ**: Dan & Michelle. E-mail: windyl@aabe.com.

CD/TS - **TRANSPITT:** PO Box 3214, Pittsburgh PA 15230. (412)224-6015. Support group.

CD - **TRAVELERS EXPRESS:** PO Box 150, Falls Creek PA 15840. (814)375-7651. Central PA region. Self expression in 100% non closeted environment. Passing not an issue, presentability essential. Leave message.

*FAMILY - **TRANSFAMILY:** c/o Deni Scott, 962 Rockdale Road, Butler PA 16001. (412)758-3578 (Janet). Email: dscott@pgh.net. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **ERIE SISTERS:** ESCC, 1903 West 8th Street, Suite 261 , Erie PA 16505. Email: eriesister@aol.com. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **RENAISSANCE - LOWER SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY CHAPTER:** Renaissance - LSV, PO Box 2122, Harrisburg PA 17105-2122. (717)780-1578. Email: lsv@ezonline.com. Web site: http://www.ezonline.com/lsv. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **RENAISSANCE - LEHIGH VALLEY/POCONO AREA:** Renaissance LV, PO Box 3624, Allentown PA 18106. Phone: (610)821-2955. Support group.

FTM - **LANCASTER BOYZ**: Tom (717)892-4999. E-mail: malesic@prolog.net. (Philadelphia area.)

*CD/TS/SO - **CROSS DRESSERS INTERNATIONAL:** CDI, PO Box 61, Easton PA 18044. S. Kristine James, Director, Karen Cioe, NYC Coordinator. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **NE PA TRANSGENDER ALLIANCE:** Lehigh Valley. (610)821-2955. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **RENAISSANCE - EDUCATION ASSOC. INC.:** Renaissance GPC, 987 Old Eagle School Road, Suite 719, Wayne PA 19087. (610)975-9119. E-mail: bensalem@bbs.cpcn.com. Web site: http://www.ren.org. Support group.

*TS - **PHILA. TS SUPPORT GROUP:** PO Box 15839, Philadelphia PA 19103. (215)567-7879. Support group.

*TS - **POSITIVE CHANGE:** c/o Pequin Place, 201 S Camac St., Philadelphia PA 19107. Joanna Sands (215)732-0603. Support group.

FTM - **PHILLY BOYZ**. Steve (215)546-6444. E-mail: shock@asc.upenn.edu. (Philadelphia area.)

***UJIMA:** Peer counseling, safer sex demos, and info materials for TG teens. Meets Wed. nights at 6:30 at 1207 Chestnut Street, 4th floor in Philadelphia.

TS/TG/CD - **GEMINI CLUB:** PO Box 281, Franklin, PA 16323. (814)432-7792. Email: gemini@usachoice.net. Support group.

CD/TS/SO/MTF/FTM - **TransYouth Services, UNITY INC.:** 1207 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19107. (215)851-1958 or (215)851-1912. Support group, community services and "Butch Brothers" Philadelphian FTM support.

RHODE ISLAND ( )

CD/TS/SO/FTM/MTF - **MORF:** c/o Transcriptions, PO Box 623, Portsmouth, RI 02871-0623. Gwen Spencer (401)683-3563, Barbie Fournier (401)683-6836, Tricia Ross (401)247-2794. Support group.

TENNESSEE (370-384)

TRI-S - **ALPHA PI OMEGA:** c/o Laury W. PO Box 871, Brentwood TN 37204-0871. Email: laurywl@mindspring.com. Web site: http://members.aol.com/apotris/aponash.htm. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **TENNESSEE VALS:** PO Box 92335, Nashville TN 37209-2335. (615)664-6883 voice mail. E-mail: jlove1Qix.nstcom.com. Homepage: http://www.3Dcom.com/tg/tvals/. Support group.

FTM - Tennessee Boyz: (Nashville, TN).: Dustin, 615-431-9540; Email: CyberBum7@aol.com

*TV/TS - **TV/TS SUPPORT GROUP:** c/o Rev. John Prowett, 1517 Court Street, Suite 4, Memphis TN 38104-2402. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **MEMPHIS TG ALLIANCE:** PO Box 11052, Memphis TN 38111-0052. Support group.

TEXAS (750-799)

CD/TS/SO - **METROPLEX CD CLUB:** PO Box 141924, Irving TX 75014. (972)264-7103. Support group.

TRI-S - **NU EPSILON TAU:** PO Box 14096, Arlington TX 76094. (214)490-5738. Email: BobbieR648. Support group.

*CD/TS - **HELP ME...ACCCEPT ME OF DALLAS:** 6753 Camp Bowie Blvd., #177, Fort Worth TX 76116. Supprt group.

CD - **METROPLEX CD CLUB:** Bldg 106, Suite 144, 7120 Rufe Snow Dr., Watauga TX 76148-1862. E-mail: domiss@flash.net. Web site: http://www.flash.net/~domega. Support group.

*SO - **WIVES'/PARTNERS' SUPPORT**: PO Box 5304, Katy TX 77036. (909) 875-2687.

*CD - **HELPING CDs ANONYMOUS:** HCDA, 68-4 e Hwy 6 s #334, Houston TX 77083. Email: brenda@firstnethou.com. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **GULF COAST TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY:** PO Box 66643, Houston TX 77266. (713)780-4282. Support group.

TRI-S - **TAU CHI CHAPTER-TRI ESS:** Box 1105, Alief TX 77411-1105. (713)347-8747. E-mail: JEFTRIS@aol.com. Web site: http:www.firstnethou.com/brenda/. Support group.

***ROSENBERG CLINIC, GENDER TREATMENT PROGRAM:** 1103 Rosenberg, Galveston TX 77550. (409)763-0016. Medical, psychological care and support groups.

*SO - **WATS:** PO Box 17, Bulverde TX 78163. (210)980-7788, before 9:00pm CT, please. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **BOULTON & PARK SOCIETY:** PO Box 17, Bulverde, TX 78163 (830)980-7788 live Tues. 6-9 pm CT. Email: tx t party@aol.com. Support group.

*TS - **SAN ANTONIO TRANSSEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP:** SATSG, PO Box 12913, San Antonio TX 78212. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **AUSTIN SECOND IMAGE:** PO Bx 15381, Austin, TX 78761. (512)515-5460 Wed. 7-9pm. Support group.

*CD/TS - **WEST TEXAS GENDER ALLIANCE:** c/o Tami Maloney, 5817 Atlantic Dr., Abilene TX 79606. Support group.

UTAH (840-847)

CD/TS/SO - **ALPHA RHO, SALT LAKE CITY:** PO Box 571242, Salt Lake City UT 84157-1242. (801)553-8141. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **ENGENDERED SPECIES:** PO Box 11897, Salt Lake City UT 84147. (801)364-0136. Support group.

CD/TS/TG/SO - **SALT LAKE GENDER CONSORTIUM:** Genevera Martin Pres., PO Box 651073, Salt Lake City UT 84165-1073. (801)576-1416. E-mail: geneveram@aol.com. Support Group.

VERMONT (050-059)

CD/TS - **TRANS:** (802)472-8115. Meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays in Burlingtn. Support group.

CD/TS - **VERMONT TRANSGENDER SUPPORT GROUP:** For information leave message at (802)860-8430. Support group.

VIRGINIA (220-246)

* - **BLACK ROSE:** PO Box 11161, Arlington VA 22210. (301)369-7667. Support group.

*TS/SO - **METRO AREA GENDER IDENTITY CONNECTION (MAGIC):** MAGA, PO Box 16036, Arlington VA 22215. (301)949-3822. Support group.

TRANS-GENDER EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION: PO Box 16036, Arlington VA 22215. (301)949-3822. E-mail: tgea@juno.com. Web Site: http://www.tgguide.com/guide/dc/tgea~ndx.html. Support group.

*FTM - **VIRGINIA BOYZ:** (Richmond). John (804)751-0584. E-mail: moojuu@gnn.com.

*CD/TS.SO - **BEACH BUNNIES:** PO Box 64121M, Virginia Beach VA 23467. Support group.

WASHINGTON (980-994)

*TS/SO - **TRANSSEXUAL LESBIANS AND FRIENDS:** TLF, Seattle, WA (206)292-1037. Support group.

*CD/TS/SO - **EMERALD CITY:** PO Box 31318, Seattle WA 98103. (206)827-9494. Support group.

*CD/TS- **CINDERELLA CIRCLE:** 304 W. Champin, Bellingham WA 98225 (360)671-7826. Email: Starchild@aol.com. Support group.

CD/TS/MTF/FTM/SO - **PAPILLON:** Attn: Marianne, P.O. Box 1365, Veredale, WA 99037. Support Group. Phone: (509)624-5358. Out of Spokane

WASHINGTON, DC (200-205)

*FTM - **DC BOYZ:** Adam (301)270-0372. E-mail: romandede@aol.com. (Metro DC.)

*CD/TS/SO - **TRANSGENDER EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GREATER WASHINGTON:** TGEA, PO Box 16036, Arlington VA 22215. (301) 949-3822. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays):** 1101 - 14th St. NW, Suite 1030, Washington, D.C. 20005. Phone (202) 638-4200. Fax (202) 638-0243. E-mail: info@pflag.org. Web: http//www.pflag.org.

CD/TS/SO - **WASHINGTON-BALTIMORE ALLIANCE:** c/o H. Garfinkle, PO Box 1994, Silver Spring, MD 20915. Phone (301)649-3960. Support group. Meets in D.C. metro area.

WEST VIRGINIA (246-268)

*CD/TS - **THE VALLEY GIRLS:** TVG, PO Box 181, Dunbar WV 25064. Support group.

*CD/SO - **TRANS-WV:** PO Box 2322, Huntington WV 25724-2322. Support group

WISCONSIN (530548)

CD/TS/SO - **GEMINI GENDER GROUP:** PO Box 44211, Milwaukee WI 53214. (414)297-9328 (voice-mail). E-mail: 75261.1443@compuserv.com. Support group.

WYOMING (820-831)

*CD/TS - **CENTRAL WYOMING TG SUPPORT GROUP:** PO Box 1301, Evansville WY 82636. (307)265-3123. Support group.

CANADA

QUEBEC

TS/SO - **FACTT - QUEBEC:** Box 293, Cote de Neiges Post Office, 5858 Cote de Neiges Blvd., Montreal, Quebec, CANADA H3S 2S6. French-speaking referrals, medical and psychological services and support group.

TS/SO - **TRANSSEXUALS IN PRISON:** Succ 293 Cote-des-Neiges, 5858 Cote-des-Neiges Blvd., Montreal, Quebec, CANADA H3S 2S6. Information and referrals.

CD/TS/SO - **CLUB MET:** 4113 Dorion Street, Montreal, Quebec, CANADA H2K 3B8. (514)528-8874. Support group. **(Formerly TAM.)**

TS/SO - **TRANSSEXUALS IN PRISON:** Non-prisoners contact Dee Farmer, 23288037, PO Box 4000, Springfield MO 65808. Prisoners contact Mrs. Patricia Fisher, Succ 293 Cote-des-Neiges, 5858 Cote-des-Neiges Blvd, Montreal, QC, CANADA H3S 2S6.

ONTARIO

TS/CD - **FACTT - OTTAWA:** Box 7421, Vanier, Ontario, Canada K1L 8E4. Support group.

TS - **TRANSITION SUPPORT:** c/o The Church Street Community Centre, 519 Church Street, Toronto, Ontario, CANADA M4Y 2C9. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **XPRESSIONS:** PO Box 223, Station A, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5W 1B2. (416)812-6879. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **GENDER METAPHOR:** 829 Northwest Road, Suite 715, Kingston, Ontario CANADA K7P-2N3. Email: genmet@adan.kingston.net. Support group.

CD/TS - **STREET OUTREACH SERVICES:** c/o W. Travers, 622 Yonge St, 2nd Fl, Toronto, Ontario, CANADA M4Y 1Z8. (416)926-0744 (24 hours). Multitude of services for TG youth.

IS - **PATRICIA FLORA:** PO BOX 425, Postal Station C, 1117 Queen Street West, Toronto, Ontario, CANADA M6J 3P5.

CD/TS/SO - **CANADIAN CROSSDRESSER'S CLUB:** 161 Gerrard St. E, Toronto, Ontario, CANADA M5A 2E4. (416) 921-6112 (24hr). Support group. e-mail: info@wildside.org

CD/TS/SO - **GENDER MOSAIC:** PO Box 7421, Vanier Ottawa, Ontario, CANADA K1L 8E4. (819)770-1945. Support group.

MANITOBA

CD/TS/SO - **PRAIRIE ROSE GENDER GROUP:** PRGG, Box 23 Grp 4 RR1, Dugald, Manitoba, R0E 0K0. CANADA. (204) 257-2759. Support group.

ALBERTA

CD/TS/SO - **ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB:** Box 2000, 6802 Ogden Rd. SE, Calgary, Alberta, CANADA T2C 1B4. (403) 236 7072. Support group.

TRI-S - **PHI SIGMA:** Box 81115, 755 Lake Bonavista Drive S.E., Calgary, Alberta CANADA T2J 7C9. Phone: (403)271-6247. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB:** Box 33002 Glenwood PO, Edmonton, Alberta, CANADA T5P 4V8. Support group.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

TS - **TRANSSEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP:** Dr. Angela Wensley, 14905 32nd Avenue, White Rock, British Columbia, CANADA V4P 1A4. (604)536-2053. Support group.

CD/SO - **CORNBURY SOCIETY:** Box 3745, Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA V6B 3Z1. Support group.

CD/TS - **FOUNDATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF TRANS-GENDERED PEOPLE'S SOCIETY:** FATE, 1-1727 William Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA V5L 2R5 (604)254-9591.

ZENITH FOUNDATION: Box 8415 Granville Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA V6P 4Z9. (604) 261-1695

PUERTO RICO

SIDA DE PUERTO RICO: PO Box 36-4842, San Juan PR 00936-4842. Phone (787)782-9600. Fax (809)782-1411. HIV/AIDS outreach organization.

SIDA DE PUERTO RICO: Calle 16 SE #1200 Caparra Terrace, Rio Piedras PR 00921. Phone (787)782-9600 Fax (787)782-1411. HIV/AIDS outreach organization.

SIDA DE PUERTO RICO: Calle Estrella #30, Ponce PR 00731. Phone (787)844-9600. Fax (787)841-1485. HIV/AIDS outreach organization.

INTERNATIONAL

ARGENTINA

TS - **TRANSSEXUALS FOR THE RIGHT OF LIFE AND IDENTITY:** TRANSDEVI, Casilla de Correo 151, C.P.1748 Gral. Rodriguez, Buenos Aires.

BRAZIL

TS - **PURPURINA (GLITTER) PROJECT:** Katia Monteiro, no. 55 Rua DA Gloria, #30, Gloria, Rio de Janeiro. Phone: 02-252-4757. FAX: 02-227-5944. Educational outreach. AIDS awareness, referrals.

AFRICA

NIGERIA

TRANSFORMATION SECOND SELF: c/o Jane Enuneku, KM 4 Idiroko Road, PO Box 1006, OTA, OGUN STATE, WEST AFRICA.

SOUTH AFRICA

PHOENIX: c/o Desiree Dexter, PO Box 1332, Springs, 1560, Gauteng. Phone: +27111 362 5247.

SATRU: (S. AFRICAN TRANSEXUAL RESEARCH UNIT) PO Box 87283, Houghton, Johannesburg 2041.

ENGLAND

TS - **AIS SUPPORT GROUP:** 2 Shirburn Ave., Mainsfield, Notts., NG18 2BY. Email: 100572.2376@compuserve.com.

BEAUMONT SOCIETY: 27 Old Glaucester Street, Londan WC1N-3XX. Phane: +44-1582-41-2220.

BEAUMONT SOCIETY PARTNERS' GROUP: phanes: +44-1223-441246 (Sauth), +44-1203-717528 (Central & Woles).

BEAUMONT TRUST: BM Chority, London, WC1N 3XX.

TS - **CHANGE**: BM Bax 3440, London WC1N 3XX. Phone: +44-0-1303-259543. Emoil: TS1CHANGE@AOL.COM. Hame page: http://users.aol.com/ts1change/private/homepoge.htm.

FRIENDS MERSEYSIDE: 36 Bolton Street, Liverpaal, L3-5LX. Phane: +44-151-709-3181, Fri. 7.30-9 GMT.

FTM NETWORK (also PRESS FOR CHANGE): BM Network, Landan, WC1N-3XX.. Phane: +44-161-423-1915 (8-10.30 pm Wed. GMT). Email: s.t.whittle@mmu.ac.uk.

THE GENDER TRUST: BM Gentrust, Landan, WC1N-3XX. Phone: +44-1305-269222 befare 10 pm GMT. Overseos Representative, Darathy Froncis, The Gender Trust, 3 Hortington Villos, Hove, BN3 6HF, ENGLAND.

TS - **GENDER IDENTITY CONSULTANCY SERVICES**: 10, Warwick Rd., Eorls Court, Londan SW5 9UH. Phane: +44-1071 244 6090, FAX: 0171 244 6090. Email: GICS@ool.cam.

INTERNATIONAL GENDER TRANSIENT AFFINITY: Bax 2, 1 Bonks Building, Schaal Green Rood, Freshwoter, Isle af Wight, P040-9AJ.

MERMAIDS: BM Mermaids, London WC1N 3XX. Graup far children and teenagers with gender dysphorio ond their families.

NORTHERN CONCORD: PO Bax 258, Monchester M60-1LN. Phone: +44-161-236-1311.

OUSU TRANSGENDER GROUP: Oxford University Student Union, Little Clarendan Street, Oxford. Phane: +44-1865-270777.

ROSE'S CLUB: 29 Raundel Street, Sheffield, S9-3LE. Phane: +44-12-68-58-4761 Wed./Sun 7-10 pm. Email: roses@organet.ca.uk.

SEAHORSE SOCIETY: BM Seaharse, Box 6093, Landan WC1N-3XX.

TRANSESSEX: POBox 3, Basildan, Essex, SS14-1PT. Phane: +44-12-68-58-3761 Wed./Sun. 7-10 pm.

TRANS-NET: c/a R. Floyd, 3 St. Augustines Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S40 2SF. Phone & FAX: +44-1246-285799. Email: 100764.27Acampuserve.com (R.Flayd).

TV SELF HELP GROUP: TSHG, Box 3281, Landan, E1-6JG. Phane: +44-171-289-5240 (24 haurs).

N. IRELAND

BELFAST BUTTERFLY CLUB: PO Bax 210, BT1-1BG, Belfast. Phane: +44-585-430408.

SCOTLAND

CROSSLYNX: c/a SGLS, PO Bax 38 Glasgaw, G2-2QF. Phone: +44-141-221-8372. HelpLine: +44-141-332-3333.

BEAUMONT SOCIETY PARTNER'S GROUP: phanes: +44-01389-380389.

WALES

SOUTH WALES TV/TS GROUP: c/a Martina Rees, 56a Kinrass Ct, Ridgwoy Rood, Llan-Romney, Cardiff, VF3-9AE.

FRANCE

ASSOC. BEAUMONT CONTINENTAL: ABC, BP-3, F-68350 Didenheim.

ASSOCIATION D'AIDE AUX TRANSSEXUELS: AAT, Maisan des Associotions, 93 Lo Conabiere, 13001 Morseille.

ASSOCIATION DEVENIR FEMME: Les Terrasses du Mediterronee, 13006 Morseille.

ASSOCIATION DU SYNDROME DE BENJAMIN: Relais 59-59 ovenue Doumesnil, 3 r Keller, 75012, Paris. 01 43 47 2125.

CARITIG: B.P. 17-22, 75810 PARIS CEDEX 17, FRANCE. Phone 33-1-42-27-42-28. Fox 33-1-64-31-05-82. Web: http://www.intersaciol.org/coritig. Center for ossistonce, reseorch ond informatian an transsexuality and gender identity.

SWITZERLAND

KONTAKFORUM FEMME TRAVESTIE: Postfoch 6788, CH-8023, Zurich.

TS - **SELBSTHILFE GRUPPE**: Pastfach 92, CH-9008 St. Gallen.

SPAIN

TS - **COLETIVO DE TRANSEXUALES DE CATALUNA**: C. Bolmes, 70, la la, 08830 Sant Bai de Labregat, Borcelono. Phane: 08080 3454 6398 Wed. 7.30-9 pm. Please speak Spanish.

GERMANY

IS - **AIS SELBSTHILFEGRUPPE**: Postfoch 7, 71201 Rottenburg om Neckar. (Fluent English, Germon.)

BODY AND SOUL: c/o KIBISS KISS. Honover. Phane: +0511/666567 oder Stefanie 0511/457347.

TV/TS - **ChelSI e.V.**: Treff Sochsen, Raesslerstr. 9, 09113 Chemnitz. Phane: +49-371-50094 (Fridoy anly). FAX: +49-371-55867.

CLUB NEUES LEBEN NOVA: PO Box 710232, 80634 Munchen. Phone: +49-089/7916643, 6-6:30 pm (CET). Pleose speak Germon.

SELBSTHILFEGRUPPE FRANKFURT AM MAIN: Pastfach 10 10 46, 63010 Offenbach. Tel. 069/8001008.

TV/TS - **GERede e.V.**: Treff Sochsen, Wiener Strasse 41, 01219, Dresden. Phone: +49-351/4640220 (Fridoy only).

INFORMATIONS KONTAKT UND VERMITTLUNGSSTELLEFUR TRANSSEXUELLE MENSCHEN IN BADEN WURTTEMBERG e.V.: IKV, c/a AOK Karlsruhe, Kriegstr. 41, D-76133, Karlsruhe. Phone/FAX: +49-721-62-3382.

LEBENSBERATUNG FUR TRANSEXUELLE MENSCHEN IM SAARLAND: c/a Dr. Waltroud Schiffels, Schlassstr 6, D-66117, Saarbruecken. Phane: +49-0681-583912

SELBSTHILFEGRUPPE FUR TRANSSEXUELLE MENSCHEN IN TUBINGEN: DAGMAR KALTENMARK, c/o Soziolforum, Tubingen e.V., Poulinenstr. 25, D-72072, Tubingen. Phane: +49-7472-6048. Emoil: 100722.3070@campuserve.cam.

SELBSTHILFEGRUPPE: Maniko Lusche, Muehlstr. 26, 74399 Woldheim. Phane: +49-7143-33502. Astrid Vatz, Forstr. 10, 71111 Woldenbach. Phane: 07157/8222. Emoil: 10722.3070@campuserve.cam ar 10157.1116@campuserve.com.

SONTAGSCLUB e.V.: Rhinaver Strasse 8, D-10437, Berlin. Phane: +49-30-208-2035 (Fridoy 6-8 CET). Emoil: kosimir@inf.fu-berlin.de.

INTERESSENGEMEINSCHAFTTRANSSEXUELLEGRUPPE IN DER SEKIS: Albrecht-Achilles-Str. 65, 10709 Ber;in. Phone: 030/8926602.

TRANSIDENTITAS: Pastfoch 10 10 46, 63010, Offenbach. Phane: +49-69-800-1008.

TRANSSEXUELLEN-ARBEITSKREIS: c/a HUCH, Westring 278, D-24116, Kiel. Phone: +49-431-17090. FAX: 431-17099.

TSH ESSEN: c/o Cloudia Peppen horst, Caesarstr. 34, D-45130, Essen. Phone: +49-201-786899.

TSH MUNSTER: c/a MIKS, Herwarthstr 2, 48143 Muenster. Phone: +49-251/511263, Cloudia Schalz.

TS GRUPPE HAMBURG: Christion Susan Black, Nubeblerkamp 13a, 22175 Hamburg. Phone: 040-754-4323.

TVV: PO Box 1148, D-65780, Hottersheim.

TS - **VIVA TS SELBSTHILFEGRUPPE MUNCHEN e.V.**: c/a Peter Reidel, Hirschbergstr. 14, D-80634, Munchen. Phane: +48-89-134681 6-6:30 pm CET. Pleose speok Germon. FAX: +49-89-162324.

TS - **SELBSTHILFE BIELEFELD**: C/O Praxis fuer Berotung und Psychotherapie, Herrn Detlef Kunert, Karl-Eilers-Str. 1, 33602 Bielefeld. Phone: 0521/63623.

TS - **SELBSTHILFEGRUPPE BONN**: c/o SEKIS Bann, Latharstr. 95, 53115 Bonn. Phone: 0228/221754.

SHG DUESSELDORF: c/o Stefonie Sonder, Pleistr. 1, B-4731 Eynatten/Belgian. Phane/FAX: 0032/87852833.

TS-GRUPPE: c/o AIDS-Hilfe Thueringen, Postfoch 50, 99001 Erfurt. Phane: 0361/7312233.

TS-ANGEHOERIGENGRU AWO-BERATUNGSZENTRUM: Luetzow-Str. 32, 450101 Essen. Phane: 0201/312051, 0201/312052.

TS - **SELBSTHILFE GOETTINGEN, TS IN PRAXIS DR. WIEDEKING**: Buehlstr. 28o, 37037 Gaettingen. Phone: 0551/46755.

SHG-HEIDELBERG: Andreas Kress, Postfoch 103766, 69029 Heiderlberg.

TRANSIDENTITAS e.V. SHG KOBLENZ: c/a Joono, phane: 0261/45040.

TRANSEXUELLENGRUPPE KOELN: c/a Korin, phone: 02196/1739.

PRO FAMILIA SACHSEN. c/o Prof. Dr. L. Aresin, 04315 Leipzig. Phane: 0341/61530.

TRANSIDENTITAS e.V. SHG: c/o Christoph, phane: 0391/5614616.

SHG MANHEIM: Andreos Tremmel, Postfoch 1242, 67370 Dudenhofen.

TRANSIDENTITAS e. V.: WUF-ZENTRUM, Niggelweg 2, 97082 Wuerzberg, jeden4.

AUSTRIA

TransX-Verein TransGender: PO Box 331, A-1171, Wien.

BELGIUM

FRANJEPOOT: Postbox 53, B-2100 Deurne 1.

GENDERSTICHTING (BELGIUM GENDER FOUNDATION): Pluimstraat 48, B-8500, Kortrijk. Phone: +32-56-21-9541 (M-F 9-11:30 am, 1-4:30 pm, M & W to 8 pm).

TS - **VERVLIET JESSICA**: Kerkplaats 22, 2990 Gooreind - Wuustwezel, Belgium. Place to stay before and after surgery.

DENMARK

FPE-NE DENMARK: Postboks 361, 1504 Koebenhavn V. Phone: +45-42-13-9032 (M,T 6-9 pm).

TRANSVISION: PO Box 280, DK-1502, Copenhagen V.

NORWAY

FPE-NE NORWAY: Box 1968, Vika, N-0125 Oslo.

EUROFANTASIA: Box 442, N-4301 Sandnes. Phone & FAX: +47-51-66-24-22. Email: jennys@transgender.org.

SWEDEN

TS - **BENJAMIN**: PO Box 9083, S 102 71, Stockholm. Phone: +46-40-611-9923, Tues. 7-9 pm CET.

FPE-S SWEDEN: Box 49029, S-400 64 Gothenburg. Phone: +46-8-34-1316.

PHI PI EPSILON SVERIGE: Box 529, S-101 30 Stockholm.

FINLAND

DREAMWEAR CLUB: Box 159, FIN-80101 Joensuu.

SETA: c/o Trans Center, Box 135, FIN-00251 Helsinki. Phone: +358-0-2411-135. Email: ekt@seta.fi.

ESTONIA

GENDY: Angerja 13-27, EE-0004 Tallin. A small organization with mostly FtM members.

NETHERLANDS

IS - **AIS SUPPORT GROUP:** (038) 269845. (Fluent English, Dutch.)

TS - **WERKGROEP TRANSSEKSUALITEIT GRONINGEN:** EENDRACHTSKADE NZ 19, 9718 BB GRONINGEN, +31-(50) 527-35-89. Contact H.H. VISSCHER, E-MAIL: francina@worldaccess.nl.

GENDERTEAM AMSTERDAM: Prof. Dr. L.J.G. Gooren, Dept. Endocrynology/Andrology, Free University Hospital, PO Box 7057, 1007 MB, Amsterdam. Phne: +31-20-444-0542 ext. 199. FAX: 444-0502.

FTM - **HET JONGENSUUR**: Binnenkadijk 178, 1018 ZH Amsterdam. Phone: 020-6221710.

TV/TS - **LANDELIJKE KONTAKTGROEP TRAVESTIE EN TRANSSEKSUALITEIT**: LKG T&T, Postbus 11575, 1001 GN Amsterdam. Phone: +31 (10) 453-18-93. Email: R.Hengeveld@inter.nl.net (Rosalind Hengeveld).

NEDERLANDSEVERENIGING HUMANITAS: PO Box 71 NL-1000 AB Amsterdam. Phone: +31-20-626-24-45. FAX: 622-7367.

STICHTING NEDERLANDS GENDER CENTRUM: Borssenburg 24, NL-1181 NV, Amstelveen. Phone: +31-20-612-4099. Political action group.

MTF/SO - **WERKGROEP FACET**: Rode Kruislaan 61, NL - 5628 GB Eindhoven. Phone: +31-40-241-5475.

TURKEY

TRAVESTY/TRANSSEXUALLE: c/o Demet Demir, Lao 176/DS, Kultur Je Sanat, Siraselviler, Taksim, Istanbul. **DO NOT PUT GROUP NAME ON ENVELOP.**

TV/TS - **SEXUAL LIBERTIES**: Use the ablove mailing instructions for Travesty/Transsexualle, c/o Iskendar Savasir. Educational outreach for all Islamic countries.

PAKISTAN

KHUSRA OF PAKISTAN: c/o Muhamid Aslam Khusra, PF-34 Abbotabad Hockey Stadium, Abbotabad. Phone: +92-5921-6158 (leave message) or 5921-2858.

BANGLADESH

YOUTH APPROACH: 3, Purana Paltan, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh. Phone: 88-02-7555321. Email: yadc@bangla.net.

RUSSIA

TV/TS - **ICE AND FIRE MOSCOW**: Nvo-Alekeeuskaya str. 7, Flat No. 8, 129626, Moscow. Also: Mirninsky r-n Gagarina str. 28, Flat #3, 678190 Aihal Yakutia. Write Directly to Margaret Mankevich. **DO NOT PUT GROUP NAME OR TITLE ON ENVELOPE.**

TV/SO - **FPE LATVIA**: Elga Remes, Jurmala, 15, PO Box 17 LATVIA LV 2015.

TV/TS/GLBT/CD - **CORN-FLOWERS, The Russian Society at the Volga River's Area**: c/o Yuri Kumykov, PO Box 10, Saratov RUSSIA. Social group.

AUSTRALIA

NEW SOUTH WALES

F-M TS - **BOYS WILL BE BOYS**: PO Box 1349, Strawberry Hills, 2012. Telephone: +61-02-319-2034.

GENDER CENTRE: PO Box 266, Petersham, 2049. Telephone: +61-02-569-2366.

CD - **LES GIRLS:** PO Box 504, Burnwood, 2134.

SEAHORSE SOCIETY NSW: PO Box 168, Westgate, 2048. Telephone: +61-02-569-6239 (Thurs. eve.). Email: kim@seahors.cv.com.

SEX WORKERS OUTREACH TRANSGENDER SUPPORT PROJECT: SWOP, PO Box 1453, Darlinghurst 2010. Phone: +61-02-212-2600; FAX : 212-3978.

TRANSGENDER LIBERATION COALITION: TLC, PO Box 208, Kings Cross, 2011. Phone: +61-02-358-5664.

QUEENSLAND

IS - **MARY RUSSELL**: PO Box 3371, Logan Hyperdrome, Loganholme, 4129.

AUS. TRANSGENDERIST SUPPORT ASSOC. INC.: ATSAQ, PO Box 212, New Farm, 4005, Phone: +61-07-846-3787 (24-hour helpline), 236-2400, FAX 236-2398.

FtM - **BOYS WILL BE BOYS**: PO Box 212, West End, 4005, Phone: 07-846-3787.

GENDER CLINIC: 484 Adelaide Street, Brisbane, 4000. Phone: +61-07-839-8262.

SEAHORSE SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND: PO Box 574, Annerley Brisbane, 4103. Phone: 61 7 38922124.

SELF HEALTH FOR QUEENSLAND WORKERS IN THE SEX INDUSTRY: SQWISI, PO Box 689, West End 4101. Phone: +61-07-844-4565. FAX: 844-8840.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

CARROUSAL CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA: PO Box 721, Cowandilla, 5033. Phone: +61-08-388-3644, Lana Allen; 281-6190, Michelle.

CHAMELEONS GROUP: PO Box 907, Kent Town, 5071. Phone: +61-08-362-1611.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA TRANSSEXUAL SUPPORT: Phone: +61-08-362-3223, Gayline; 362-1611, Jenny.

VICTORIA

CHAMELEON SOCIETY OF VICTORIA: PO Box 500, Williamstown, Victoria 3016.

FTM TS - **BOYS WILL BE BOYS**: PO Box 328, Northcote, 3070.

GENDER DYSPHORIA CLINIC AT THE MONASH MEDICAL CENTRE: Clayton Campus, 246 Clayton Road, Clayton 3168. Phone: +61-03-955-1437, ask for Dawn.

SEAHORSE CLUB: Victoria, Box 2337V, Melbourne, 3001.

TRANSGENDER LIBERATION AND CARE: TLC, PO Box 1674, South Preston, 3071. Phone: +61-03-948-11506, ask for Sharon. Email: gayle@melbpc.org.au.

WEST AUSTRALIA

CHAMELEON SOCIETY: PO Box 367, Victoria Park, 6163. Phone: +61-01-577-1753.

GENDER COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA (W.A.) INC.: PO Box 58, Victoria Park, 6110. Phone: +61-09-362-5447.

WATS SUPPORT UNITY AND PRIDE: WATSUP, PO Box 771, Doubleview, 6018.

NEW ZEALAND

IS - **INTERSEX SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND**: PO Box 9196, Wellington. Phone: +6 4 4727386, FAX: +6 4 4727387.

NEW ZEALAND GENDER DYSPHORIA FOUNDATION: NZGDF, PO Box 2827, Auckland.

NZPC/TOPS: PO Box 68-509, Auckland. Phone: 64 9 3666 106. Support group and trans friendly medical clinic.

JAPAN

ELIZABETH CLUB: 5-32-18 Kameido, Koto-ku, Tokyo 136. Phone: +81-3-3683-6092.

ELIZABETH CLUB: 1-1-9 Kujo, Nishi-Ku, Osaka 550.

ELIZABETH NAGOYA SHOP: 1-13-15 Noritake Nakamura-Ku, Nagoya-shi 453.

FTM NIPPON: Adachi-Ku, Adachi-nishi-post office, Tokyo 123. Phone: +81-3-3683-6092 (Kameido Club).

TURNING POINTS

Rosie and Me and Mom's Closet Makes Three

Rachel Miller

Beginning this issue, Transgender Tapestry *inaugurates a new series in which prominent community figures describe the turning point when they first realized they were transgender. As our first contributor, we are proud to welcome Rachel Miller, the distinguished author of* The Bliss of Becoming One: Integrating "Feminine" Feelings into the Male Psyche.

Growing up in a small Wisconsin town was an ideal experience. There was a vacant field at the end of the street, and our Spring Ritual was the initiation of the Port Washington version of major league baseball. Billie, Bobby, Curt, Dale, John, Ned, Roger and Dick (that's me) were on the field daily right through Summer. As the days turned cooler and the leaves turned redder, our days turned to football—Packermania came earlier in life.

As winter arrived, the cold became overwhelming for even the hardiest and craziest, and outdoor activities diminished. In bad weather I discovered that Rosemary, the 7-year-old next door, was an acceptable alternative. She didn't like sports but had lots of neat games that we could play indoors...get your minds out of the gutter, I was only five at the time.

My Mom was shopping one day and Rosie suggested we go over to my house. She announced that we were going to play house and marched right into my parents' closet. She would be the Dad and I would be the Mom. Rosie donned my Dad's shirt, tie and pants, and slopped around in his huge shoes. His hat (men wore hats in those days) rested neatly on her lower lip. She helped me get into my Mom's underwear, and then slipped a dress over my head. She sat me on the bench in front of the huge vanity with the gigantic circular mirror and began applying face powder, rouge and lipstick in roughly the same quantities used by Bozo. She applied equal portions to my face, the clothes, the vanity and the floor. This was really fun until...

"Dickie! Where are you!" Oh, how I hated to be called Dickie. We scrambled about trying to put things away, but my Mom was in the room before much could happen. She was spitting mad and shagged Rosie's butt home. Never mind that my Mom's name was also Rose. This was too much. "As for you young man, look at the mess you've made." Then came those chilling words that every kid learns to hate, "Just you wait until your father gets home." Oh, boy! I'm really going to get it now.

That night one of those huge hands imparted 5-fingered wisdom to my behind. My initial reaction was, Boy, I'll never do anything like that again. By the next morning the pain of the hand was gone, but something else remained...the feel of those clothes. I knew I wanted to do that again. But next time, I would be careful not to make such a mess.

(Rachel Miller is the author of community best-seller, The Bliss of Becoming One: Integrating "Feminine" Feelings into the Male Psyche, *and a voluminous contributor to the TG press.)*

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

"That's Laurie. She's My Chaplain. She's Transgendered You Know!" Or Reflections of a Transgendered Chaplain

Laurie Jean Auffant

It is mid May 1996, and I am sitting outside of the administration building at Episcopal Divinity School (EDS). The sun is shining brightly, the flowers are blooming in the dark earth, and students and faculty are bustling with putting the finishing touches on theological papers and preparing for graduation. I am sitting on the edge of a raised garden bed. Tears are running down my cheeks. I feel isolated and deeply hurt about not being accepted into two Clinical Pastoral Education programs in Massachusetts.

I am a Unitarian Universalist candidate for ordained parish ministry, and I am sponsored by Arlington Street Church in Boston. I just completed my second year of study in the Master of Divinity program at EDS, and most of my peers will be entering into Clinical Pastoral Education programs this summer. Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is an educational program in which pastoral students learn to become chaplains in settings such as a hospital, retirement community, prison, or community placement such as a hospice center. CPE is also a requirement for ordination in the Unitarian Universalist Association, and is accepted as field work by most theological schools. I was rejected by two large medical centers in Massachusetts because I am a bearded woman, lesbian crossdresser, divinity school student. My dear friend Andrea Blunt and Hillary, her six year old daughter, see me weeping and pause to console me. I tell her about the wisdom of my advisor, the Rev. Sue Hiatt, who encouraged me to "leave no stone unturned" until I was accepted into a program. Fortunately, I have just scheduled another interview at a retirement community in Concord, New Hampshire. I am still weeping. The pain is very deep.

On May 23, 1996, I drove from Cambridge to Concord, New Hampshire for my interview to be a chaplain at the Havenwood-Heritage Heights Retirement Community, a community founded 28 years ago by the New Hampshire Conference of the United Church of Christ. The community is located on two campuses and consists of 700 residents and 280 staff members. The residents range in age from 65 to 105. They live in independent cottages, lodge apartments, and in the Health Service Center in which skilled nursing is provided. The Rev. Frank Irvine told me that he would have the entire admissions committee interview me. The admissions committee consisted of the two chaplain supervisors from Havenwood-Heritage Heights, a United Church of Christ community minister, and two residents of the community who are over the age of 90. After brief introductions, I was asked many questions about my education, my work experience, and my church activities. I was also asked to explain what transgender means. I told the committee that I was organizing a workshop entitled, "Welcoming Transgender People Into Our Congregations," to be given at the Unitarian Universalist General Assembly in June in Indianapolis. I also told them about my experiences of being rejected at the other two medical centers in Massachusetts. After about forty minutes of questioning and discussion, I was invited to sit in the lounge and wait while they made their decision. I drank some iced tea and was called back into the room by the Rev. Frank Irvine only five minutes later. The Rev. Ross Cannon, a retired United Church of Christ minister in his 90s spoke after I was seated. "Laurie, we believe what happened to you in Massachusetts is illegal. We want you to know that we are accepting you into the program, not because it would be illegal to not accept you, we are accepting you because we really want you here." I almost began crying for joy. The program began on June I, 1996, and my head began spinning with excitement.

As I drove home, the license plates that read, "Live Free or Die" in New Hampshire had a whole new meaning for me. I had a little over a week to find a place for my dog to live for the summer, pack my apartment, shop for some new suits, and move to New Hampshire.

I arrived at the retirement community on Saturday, June 1, 1996, the day of their annual fair, a hot strawberry-short-cake, steamy day. Residents were selling all sorts of treasures: knitted baby blankets and quilts, paintings, and glassware. I enter the Havenwood-Heritage Heights Retirement Community as one of the summer chaplains on that warm sunny day wearing my new tan silk jacket, brown pants, brown polished wing tips, and my brown-cream-and-orange striped tie, a blessing from Dr. Sheila Kirk, hugging my neck. The Rev. Kathy Turner greets me with a joyous smile and says, "You should take your tie off and relax, it's hot." I respond, "No, that's okay, I like to dress this way." She looks around the fair grounds and says, "No one else is wearing a tie and jacket." I respond with, "I am comfortable with the way I am, thanks." Kathy did not have the honor of knowing about my celebration by the raised flower beds at EDS last week!

One of my objectives was to reflect on how Havenwood-Heritage Heights residents and staff members receive me as a transgender chaplain and pastor in group discussions, verbatims, and evaluations. Each chaplain was assigned a Parish with about 120 residents in which we did daily pastoral visits, hospital visits, and organized vesper and chapel services. I was assigned a supervisor, the Rev. Frank Irvine. We met weekly to review my progress.

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

* * *

On July 8, 1996, I wrote some reflections after my first month. "Over the last month I have met so many new faces and listened to individuals' hardships, sorrows, anger, confusion, triumphs, and celebrations. I work at trying to hold each moment, sometimes each word, and sometimes each gesture in order to be pastorally present with each individual. I am a storyteller, hence, I love listening to stories. However, I am deeply aware that I have been entrusted with much more than stories. I

have been entrusted with individuals' deepest passions, anger, sorrow, and grief. I cherish each moment. I listen with my ears, my eyes, my body. I believe that my entire body, my embodiment, speaks volumes, and people have responded with me. I have been intentional about writing notes, sometimes entire conversations, immediately after speaking to individuals. This technique has really helped me with my memory. It is also great discipline."

My reception as a transgender chaplain and pastor into the Havenwood-Heritage Heights Retirement Community has been precisely as Rev. Frank Irvine predicted. "Some will be comfortable with you, and some will be uncomfortable with you." The most intriguing experience for me was the response I received from residents after my introduction of myself at Heritage Heights. I decided that I needed to state the unspoken, the obvious. The Rev. Frank Irvine spoke before all of the students. He introduced our CPE group as including five women and one man. Here was my lead in, so I introduced myself as a woman with a beard, as transgender and as Unitarian Universalist. I certainly was nervous before I spoke, but felt a relief of fresh air blow into the room afterwards. I think it is similar to the analogy of naming the pink elephant in the middle of the room. Folks usually feel relieved, often more relaxed, after the elephant is named and discussed. Many residents came up to me and shook my hand and told me they were glad I spoke about being a woman with a beard. For at least two weeks after the introduction, not a day went by without someone coming up to me to talk about my introduction, Unitarian Universalism, transgender identity, or how brave I was. Most importantly, when I went to bed that evening, I hugged my bearded, quilted doll that my mother had given me, felt loved, and went to sleep in peace. I felt authentic and proud. I believe that I will feel more compelled to speak out and name myself as a woman with a beard, as transgendered, and as a Unitarian Universalist in future settings in my ministry right in the beginning, so that folks will not be confused by a political activist's silence, by my pastoral presence.

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

Midway through the summer I was in the dining room carrying my tray to the table where the other student chaplains were sitting. As I turned to walk towards my table I over heard one of the elderly Unitarian Universalist woman residents say to a group of residents, "That's Laurie. She's my chaplain. She's transgendered you know!" I smiled and chuckled to myself. "We really do respect the inherent worth and dignity of every individual!"

* * *

I was dearly blessed by having the Rev. Frank Irvine as my supervisor at the retirement community. Supervision time for me was a time to slow down, to contemplate my experiences of the week, and to seek guidance and encouragement. My relationship with the Rev. Frank Irvine was one of mutuality and respect. Frank honored my gift to the retirement community as a transgendered chaplain in his Final Evaluation: "I believe her consciousness of the importance of her presence as a bearded, transgender woman contributes significantly to her developing sense of pastoral presence. As a transgender woman this consciousness of her presence is important to her safety. Wherever she is she is always transgender. And to Laurie wherever she is she is always minister. This consciousness has been fostered by her pastor and is evident in her functioning in ministry. She had no difficulty in stepping into the pastoral role at Havenwood-Heritage Heights and presenting herself as chaplain. Her personal integrity and her enthusiasm for her faith is convincing. She describes herself as a Unitarian Universalist evangelist and lives that Out."

* * *

Rev. Frank Irvine often wore bow ties, the kind that you hand tie. I didn't own any bow ties because I didn't know how to tie them. Throughout the summer I joked about how I wanted Frank to teach me to tie a bow tie. On the last day of our program, I stopped by his office to pick up a copy of my evaluation. He gave it to me, we shook hands, and I thanked him for the opportunity of being able to work at Havenwood-Heritage Heights. He said he wanted to give me a special gift, one of his bow ties! He picked out a navy, aqua, and maroon striped bow tie and showed me how to tie it. Ribbons of hope, ribbons of solidarity, ribbons of love, ribbons of encouragement. I intend to wear his gift, my precious bow tie, at my ordination at Arlington Street Church in a few years. Another blessing to sustain me on my journey!

(Laurie Jean Auffant is the Ministerial Intern at the First Parish Unitarian Church Universalist Church of Arlington, Arlington MA. She can be reached at the church at 617-648-3799.)

Directory of Helping Professionals

Updated September, 1997

Qualifying professionals who wish to place their listing in the Directory of Helping Professionals should contact: Classifieds % *Transgender Tapestry*, P.O. Box 229, Waltham, MA 02254-0229. Listing does not imply endorsement by or affiliation with IFGE.

ARIZONA

SHEILA FRIEDEMAN DICKSON, PhD: 3930 East Camelback Rd., #205, Phoenix AZ 85018. (602)956-3006. Psychotherapy

COUNSELING ASSOCIATES: Ginnie Monroe Grant, CISW, 5440 S. Clambake, Tempe AZ 85283. (602)897-0444. Psychotherapy.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

LOS ANGELES GENDER CENTER: LAGC, 1923-1/2 Westwood Blvd., Suite 2, Los Angeles CA 90025. Phone: (310)475-8880. Marie Keller, MFCC. Psychotherapy

STEPHEN J. PINCUS, M.D., FACS: 4644 Lincoln Blvd., Suite 409, Marina del Rey CA 90292. (310)306-2160. FAX (310)821-6596. Email: spincus@earthlink.net or PlatikDok@aol.com. Voice surgery and plastic surgery. (PL-84)

ROXANNE CHERRY, PhD: 343 3rd St., Laguna Beach CA 92651. (714)497-9925. Psychotherapy.

GENDER DYSPHORIA PROGRAM OF ORANGE COUNTY, INC.: 32158 Camino Capistrano, Suite 203, San Juan Capistrano CA 92675. Wm. G. Heard, PhD, Director. (714)240-7020. Mental health facility.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

WILLIAM A. HENKIN, PhD: 1801 Bush Street, Ste. 111, San Francisco CA 94109. (415) 923-1150. Psychotherapy.

BARBARA F. ANDERSON, PhD, LCSW: 1537 Franklin St., Ste. 104, San Francisco CA 94109. (415)776-0139. Psychotherapy.

BARBARA F. ANDERSON, MSW, PhD: 1537 Franklin St., Suite 104, San Francisco CA 94109. (415)776-0139, FAX (415)441-0936. Certified Sex Therapist. Clinical Sexologist.

GENDER & SELF ACCEPTANCE PROGRAM: GSAP, PO Box 424447, San Francisco CA 94142. Gianna Eveling Israel, Director, (415)558-8058. Psychotherapy.

JEANNE M. WEST: 450 San Antonio Rd, #50, Palo Alto CA 94306. (415)494-2952. Psychotherapy.

SAN FRANCISCO GENDER INFORMATION: SFGI, c/o Dr. Rebecca Auge, 3637 Grand Ave, Suite C, Oakland CA 94610. Database of TG resources $3.00. Send SASE for further info.

ANNE VITALE, PhD: D Street Counseling Group, 610 D St, San Rafael CA 94901. (415) 456-4452. "Notes on Gender Transition." Email: http://www.avitale.com. Psychotherapy.

ALICE WEBB, MSW: PO Box 1718, Sonoma CA 95476-1718. (707)939-7416. Psychotherapy.

COLORADO

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RANDI ETTNER, Ph.D.: 1214 Lake St., Evanston IL 60201. (847)328-3433. FAX (847)328-5890. Email: http://members.aol.com/rettner. Psychotherapist/psychologist. President, New Health Foundation. (PL-84)

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WISCONSIN

INSTITUTE FOR PSYCHOSEXUAL HEALTH: Great Lakes Gender Clinic, 3250 North Oakland Avenue,Milwaukee WI 53211. Charles A.Kiley, ACSW, LICSW, (414)332 5407. Psychotherapy.

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FTM Column:

The Little Boy's Room

R. Scott Gerdes
(guest columnist)

You can lead a T-person to a public restroom, but you can't make him/her go in. Natural bodily functions may not be proper dinner conversation or usual magazine fodder, but for transgendered folk, there are many anxiety-ridden moments when being tossed into the jungle-eyed general populace. Public restroom situations can be some of the most traumatic and gut-wrenching of them all.

There are many factors to address and many questions to consider: First, for those who feel comfortable enough about their "maleness," barging into the women's restroom is out of the question. Most of us would get arrested. We really don't belong in there anyway. The only other indoor option, then, is obviously the men's room. But what's in there? Sure, at least one urinal plus the urinal cake, maybe a toilet, probably one tissue square left on the roll, and possibly an advertising board touting cars, condoms and vo-tech schools. Maybe asking a knowing male friend to scope it out first is best. Is there a stall? If so, does it have a door and will anyone be able to see me through the spaces in the frame? Because if there is no door, that means guys will be butting right up to the stall...waiting and looking. Men don't pee face-to-face. Then again, who does, but I've seen them go in sinks, on the side of a building and behind trees. Even if there is a door that stays shut without having to stretch one arm out to keep it from flying open, won't my shoes be pointing in the wrong direction?

Granted, peeing isn't the only reason a person goes to the bathroom, but why, then, does it always seem that I'm the only guy that is "apparently" relieving his bowels? Someone will notice. Someone will question. How many guys are waiting in line? If a lot, I'll have to hurry. Men are in and out of restrooms faster than women, and they get boisterous if there's a hold up. It isn't because men don't primp in front of the mirror—many do. They're faster because they have less clothing to remove and reassemble.

Some men will sit down to urinate, but even with 11 years of "living as Scott" under my belt (no pun intended), I still feel I have to give the impression that I am doing more than just watering the porcelain. If you've ever been unlucky enough to have to enter a public men's room, you undoubtedly were witness to the common mess — splattered pools dotting the toilet seat, the floor and sometimes the roll of toilet paper (if there is any). I figured that's another reason why they are so quick, who wants to stand in that for very long, let alone sit in it. Sometimes I grunt a little and push my pants down around my ankles, because that's what guys do. I've even come up with typically gross, immature male euphemisms for "number 2." I've caught myself walking out of a stall saying things like, "Go at your own risk!" and "Man, I feel better!" or "Damn nasty!" and my personal favorite, "Entertaining graffiti in there."

It's almost worse when there's just one or two other men in a restroom, because then it's much quieter. I am convinced that my stream sounds different from a genetic male's, and that someone would notice and blow the whistle. "That's not a 'real' man in there! The piss stream is *way* too widely dispersed! I can hear it hitting at least a quarter more of the bowl than mine does! Hey, did you hear that? The stream stopped and started again, and I know *we* can't do that! Let's get the freak!" Many times I'll wait until I'm alone. I'll sit there in pain for several minutes if it means privacy. But, that's not a healthy practice, so I've learned to listen for cues. I've discovered there are many sounds that guys make in the bathroom that could easily muffle any noise I produce. When the loudness of others flushing, turning on faucets or running the hand blowdryer exists, I go for it. If such clamoring stops while in mid-stream, so do I. My timing has become impeccable.

Gay bars do provide some relief to the bathroom brouhaha, but personally, I still don't want to be "found out" by anyone I don't tell myself. Mind you, it's not an issue of distrusting the gay community. I just like to blend in everywhere. And besides, if I am ever to be "outed" without my permission, I pray that it's not in a privy.

The worst of times, however, are when I have felt so self-conscious that I've gone outside and found an alley, dense brush, a dumpster or some other secluded spot to go—regardless of the weather. Even if you don't live in the winter Tundra known as Minnesota as I once did, you can picture trudging through mid-shin-high snow drifts, baring yourself to below zero windchills, and all without the benefit of proper Antarctic outerwear. I'm quite sure I don't need to describe my near frost-bitten scares. All in the name of nature. The only time that dreadful scenario really ever occurred was when I was out at a straight bar and either the line was too long, there were no stalls, or the stall had no door. I mean, how many guys say they are going to "take a leak" and then put on their down-filled parka? Uni-sex restrooms are definitely a beautiful sight, but, alas, too few and far between. Looking back on my stellar restroom visits, because of paranoia, I think I put just a little *too* many theatrics into the whole process. But, then again a man's gotta do what a man's gotta do.

The Man *in the* Red Velvet Dress

J.J. Allen

My good friend Sandy Thomas publishes those cute little pink CD fantasy books. You know the theme: An unsuspecting young man is forced, by circumstances utterly beyond his control, to crossdress. He may have been *forced* to crossdress in order to hide from organized crime; perhaps it was a requirement of an inheritance. In any event, the forced crossdressing is carried out by a beautiful, powerful female. As the beautiful woman teaches him the nuances of being feminine, the young man discovers that he likes being a girl. He then changes his name to "Suzy" and lives happily ever after in pink-pantied bliss as a real girl with breasts and everything.

Were it this simple, I would've changed my name to Suzy long ago. But regrettably, I've never been "Forced Into Femininity," "Punished in Panties," or "Maid to Serve." Of course, one can pay for such experiences, but pay-for-play is never the same as having it really happen. Nor could such contracted amusements, alas, ever make one a real girl.

Sandy Thomas' pink books exist to bridge the gap between reality and fantasy. They are transvestic versions of the venerable Harlequin Romance; eonistic bonbons; a fluffy dessert following a hard day of eating the insults and abuses of the world. "Skip the martini, Fifi," I often say to the maid as I arrive home at the Allen Estate after a grueling day at work, "and bring me a pink book instead."

There, in the comfort and privacy of my paneled study, attired in my, um, silk smoking jacket, I can launch into a flight of fantasy in which I am suddenly eighteen years old again and thrilled for the first time by the secret kiss of lace. Naturally, I keep the pink book safely tucked inside a thick volume of Cicero or Josephus in case my wife intrudes upon my reverie.

"What are you doing, dear?" she'll ask.

"Just reading Trajan's letters to Pliny the Younger, honeybunch," I reassure her.

"In the original Greek?" she'll query with a hint of pride in her voice.

"Naturally," I'll intone, "I wouldn't want all those years of study at Notre Dame to go to waste." She smiles and leaves me unmolested to return to my reading.

The original Greek? Try the original geek. If my wife ever discovered that I actually went to the *Notre Dame Institute of Auto Body and Welding*, she'd throw me out. Oh well, it never hurts to have people think you went to a respected Catholic university rather than a vocational school in east Los Angeles. Indeed, as Donald Barthelme opined in his amusing short story, "Brain Damage," "Some people feel you should tell the truth, but those people are impious and wrong, and if you listen to what they say, you will be tragically unhappy all your life."

Which is exactly my point about the pink books. While

the serious CD would never admit to having read one of these slim volumes, judging from Sandy's sales, someone must be reading a lot of them. While we want the world to think that we graduated cum laude from the Harvard School of Transgendered Studies, the truth is that most of us found our way into the respectable world of crossdressing after living on the "streets" of fantasy and lust. In my case, I found an ad for Powder Puffs of Orange County in 1987 in *The LA Weekly*, a fifty-cent weekly tabloid-type newspaper. Having found PPOC in this way was not at all unusual, for sexually-oriented publications were one of the

few avenues of communication available to the crossdressing community in ages past.

Fortunately, the "streets" have come a long way since 1987. For example, there are currently about 2,000 sites on the Internet devoted to the world of transgenderism. Once again, as accurate as a Tomahawk cruise missile, Joanne Roberts, speaking at California Unity, observed, "The modern transgender community is as much a product of the internet as it is of the conventions... it [the internet] brought this community to critical mass." (as reported by Melanie Yarborough in the July '97 PPOC newsletter).

Some 1,500 of the transgendered internet sites are "personal pages" built by individuals who want their place on the information superhighway. Personal pages reflect the wide range of transgendered expression. The most avant garde personal site I have seen is Jheri Lee's *Transfetish Experience*. The sheer beauty and artistry of the graphics and prose make Jheri Lee's site well worth your time.

Three personal sites that I, as a M2F CD, find noteworthy are *Michele's Mid Day Break*, *Vanity Girls*, and *Pamala's Page*. *Michele's Mid Day Break* is a great place to hang around to see the clubby, networked side of CD cyberspace. *Vanity Girls*, a related page, shows that chic aspect of the CD world which enjoys fashion, class, elegance, and the pleasures of vanity as it relates to the CD lifestyle. *Pamala's Page* offers a fun, refreshing look into the innocent eroticism of the novice CD and all her fascinations. *Pamala's Page* is a walk down memory lane; it always leaves me wishing I were once again a new CD just discovering the world of femininity.

Another good site is *Kalina "the Sexy Vampire" Isato's*. At first blush, one might be tempted, as was my Romanian friend Wilhelmina, to think that Kalina's site is actually about transvestism and vampirism.

It isn't. Rather, as I told Wilhelmina, Kalina "the Sexy Vampire" uses the sobriquet to denote that she likes to stay out all night in clubs. Wilhelmina, being from the country which gave us Vlad the Impaler, thought by some to be the prototype of Dracula, didn't think such an association with vampirism was wholesome. I tried to explain to the former Soviet bloc crossdresser that in America we don't see either transvestism or vampirism as being a problem.

I further told Wilhelmina that because life is so short and pleasure so fleeting, I've long believed in combining one's interests to attain greater, synergistic pleasure. I then related a story I sometimes tell of an elderly CD I observed buying several pairs of six inch stiletto heels at Lydia's. After completing his purchases, he asked Lydia and me if we knew of any CDs who enjoyed Lionel model trains as much as he.

Wilhelmina looked perplexed.

"This is a perfect example of what I am talking about," I said to Wilhelmina, "why not wear six inch heels and a negligee while operating your model railroad? You combine two simple pursuits at the same time to achieve maximum pleasure. Such hedonistic economy is almost Calvinistic in its ethic."

"But transvestism and vampirism?" she replied, somewhat overwhelmed that such striking juxtapositions were possible in a free society.

"Why not?" I asked. "If one has a fondness for either consuming plasma products in the dark of night, or operating a model railroad, I guess, to invoke the CD's favorite rationale, it really doesn't matter how one is dressed." Perhaps because my strange sense of humor does not translate well, Wilhelmina, unable to wrap her mind around this concept, changed the subject.

To complete my story though, I should add that the elderly CD went on to state that he had written Lionel to ask if they would include his query about crossdressing Lionel enthusiasts in their model railroad newsletter.

With wearied resignation, the geriatric femophile said that the folks at Lionel declined his request. Perhaps the Lionel people feared that such a query could lead to yet another seeking those who combine crossdressing, model trains, and, say, vampirism — after all, one just never knows where such queries will end once the barn door has been opened.

Which is why we have vendors in the first place. Vendors are the ones who are supposed to pick up on the pulse of the consumer and give us exactly what we want. There are, by my estimation, about five hundred web sites for vendors wishing to sell us wigs, shoes, cosmetics, maid training, videos, clothes, naughty pictures, naughty stories, big girl clothes, lingerie, plastic nails, and other *parafemale* accouterments.

Yet there don't appear to be any videos on the net which feature crossdressing vampires or crossdressing model railroaders. Further, I note with great dismay that inflatable plastic TV love dolls have also not yet made it onto the internet, and, according to Wilhelmina, neither have they found their way into Romania—or at least she has been unable to find an example of such pneumatic love slaves in her country. As I use inflatable plastic TV love dolls as one measure of our penetration into this grandly absurdist technoculture in which we live, their absence on the net signifies that we have not yet fully infused cyberspace, or for that matter, the former Soviet Union.

Where, then, are our vendors when we need them the most?

Transcending the great, wispy clouds of lingerie lust and high heeled bondage seen in personal sites, the net also features many excellent organizational sites. While it is hard to match the juggernaut that *tgforum* has become, there are several outstanding sites that offer educational, philosophical, spiritual, legal, and social perspectives that are not always readily available in print. The good news for the modern, modem-equipped CD is that help is just an e-mail away.

This marks a huge improvement from ten years ago when I had to write to PPOC's post office box and wait almost two weeks for Sue Simms to mail me back an answer to my request for membership information. Following my receipt of Sue's reply, I had to mail her back my phone number and then wait another week for her to call me. It was a good thing I was not despondent at the time or I might have fallen prey to a religious cult in the three weeks it took me to hook up with PPOC. Had this been the case, I would probably now be writing articles warning my reader about demonic possession rather than penning script for this esteemed publication.

As a transgendered futurist, I am often asked what I see next on the horizon.

The contribution to the internet I am currently working on involves a variation on *Virtual Crossdressing*. One night while going through a lingerie catalog online, I thought it would be a real treat if I could download a really cute baby doll nightie, print it off, and wear it. So then I got this idea for attaching robotic sewing equipment to a modem. While it will take some time to troubleshoot the lace feeder mechanism, I anticipate that my hardware/software apparatus, *The Allen LingerieScape System*, will be released by the fourth quarter of 1998.

Using my robotic modem/sewing equipment, or what I call the *LingeriePrinter*, the CD or devoted fetishist will be able to download a lingerie pattern. Assuming the right type of fabric and lace is loaded in the *LingeriePrinter*, the pattern will print off and be cut and sewn by the automated equipment. Imagine it, girlfriend, right there in the privacy of your own home you will be able to acquire, through the miracle of technology, a deliciously wicked pair of panties, a bra, or a teddy—and it will all be discreetly billed to your telephone as "internet service." The future has never looked brighter!

(J.J. Allen is the psuedonymous author of The Man in the Red Velvet Dress: Inside the World of Crossdressing. *J.J. Allen can be contacted via this publication or via e-mail at: jjallen@ix.netcom.com)*

Who's Really From Venus?

Dr. Peggy Rudd

"When men and women are able to respect and accept their differences then love has a chance to blossom."

Men are from Mars Women are from Venus,

John Gray

John Gray was motivated to help couples understand the hidden differences between men and women so that a more harmonious love can be enjoyed. Millions of people have had an awakening based upon the truths he presented so skillfully. As I began to write the book *Who's Really From Venus?* which is scheduled for publication in 1998, I saw a more complex problem. Mastering the art of loving unconditionally within the transgender community is far more complicated. A typical couple is composed of a woman who enjoys a reciprocal relationship with a man. That sounds normal so far. But what happens if the man also has a very large feminine component and has been aware of the need to express femininity for as long as he can remember? The couple lives in a culture with very clear and precise gender lines. Something is wrong with this picture!

ALL ABOUT MEN

Most men enjoy doing "the guy things." The transgender male also enjoys expressing femininity. He perceives himself to be a good citizen, a good provider, and a good husband in every way, except there is the strong desire to cross gender lines. This scenario may seem like a major contradiction, especially to the woman he loves. She spent her younger years looking forward to life with the man she loves. As a child, she enjoyed fairy tales and believed she and the love of her life would live happily ever after.

She was not prepared for life in the transgender community. Nothing her mother taught her, and nothing she observed, prepared her for the first glimpse of her husband or partner in a dress. The image of a man in a dress does not fit the stereotypical image and is not a match with what she expected.

Her problem initially is probably related to the role of man in society. From the earliest accounts, there was the need for men to be strong, to fill the role of protector for the women in their lives. Also, girls were taught the expected roles. As she moves into a committed relationship with a man, she probably has thoughts about his strength, virility and the security he will provide. Wives in the transgender community may learn eventually that the strength does not vanish with the expression of femininity. But the basic threat may hang over the relationship in a negative manner.

SOLUTIONS

Solutions will not be easy or simple. Few of life's experiences have prepared the couple for blending love with a life style so unique, hidden and unexplained. Those of us who swim successfully through the uncharted waters which flow freely from Venus to Mars and back to Venus again have developed our own system of navigation. Each movement holds new surprises and new challenges. We have, of necessity, become master communicators, determined negotiators, and determined boundary enforcers. We have cried. It gets sad sometimes. We have laughed...partly because the scenarios are so humorous, but also because humor is great in the midst of tragedy. Shakespeare taught us that.

Despite the challenges, I believe the people who successfully swim these shark-infested waters and learn to survive become the happiest people in the world. Perhaps we get stronger when we grow together. Perhaps the added dimensions we share give us added joy. I do know one thing, those of us who have made it work are convinced it was worth the effort.

(Dr. Peggy Rudd is Director of S.P.I.C.E. and of Dignity Cruises.)

Letters And Comments From Our Readers

TRANSCRIPTIONS

THE GENDER IDENTITY DISORDER DIAGNOSIS

Dear *Transgender:*

After reading Margaret Deirdre O'Hartigan's essay supporting the need for the GID diagnosis, I was struck by her inconsistencies and exclusions. For one, I never understood how one can be disabled with a diagnosis of GID. I'll assume that she meant that the disability involves the distress that arises with a cross-gender identity that is only corrected with hormones and genital surgery.

The problem with this conception of disability, along with the current definition of GID in the American Psychiatric Association's *Diagnostic & Statistical Manual, IV,* is that it ignores the social and legal issues that require the need for medical intervention in the first place. In many areas, legal recognition for an individual's gender is based upon whether they have had SRS. For example, in Ohio, a school teacher was told that she could not go back into the classroom until after she has had SRS, and we all have heard stories about trans-people who have been refused emergency medical aid because they were found not to have the "proper genitals."

Is it any wonder we are distressed, given these and other incidents of discrimination and violence? Is it any wonder that we have a persistent discomfort about our physical form, if the only way we can function within this society is through medical interventions like hormones and surgery?

The problem with GID, as it stands now, is that it ignores the social and legal pressures that create the distress and discomfort that many of us face, and it is these issues that confound GID's validity as a diagnostic construct. Hormones and surgery are not a medical necessity but a legal necessity. The distress, discrimination, and violence that transpeople experience are based upon people's nonconformity to traditional gender norms, which will continue to persist, regardless of whether GID as a diagnostic construct exists or not. The solution is to stop this form of discrimination through political and social action, not by treating our gender identity as an individual pathology.

Ms. O'Hartigan also contradicts herself when she discusses third-party payment for medical interventions related to GID. She claims that we should do more to have insurance pay for the expense for a procedure that even she calls "the destruction of otherwise apparently healthy organs." I don't think insurance companies will be too swayed by that argument. It should also be noted that the health care industry and government programs are looking to cut costs wherever they can. One example is the passing of a welfare reform law in which substance abuse is no longer seen as a disability that can be claimed under Title 551. In this context, it would be difficult to argue for payment for surgeries that require "the destruction of otherwise apparently healthy organs."

It is also important to point out that many people do not have any type of health insurance, so regardless of whether insurance companies pick up the cost or not, these people will not be affected at all. So her claim that the anti-GID campaign is being lead by "highly paid professionals" and that class-privilege is at its heart is very puzzling. Currently, many people are having to pay out of their own pocket for hormones and surgery. Perhaps we should look into changing the laws that require us to spend large amounts of money to change our bodies before we are allowed to have a legal existence in society.

Ms. O'Hartigan's presentation of Janice Raymond and Phyllis Burke as having a similar point of view was misleading. Raymond is a gender essentialist. In other words, she believes that if you are born male (female) you will always be male (female), and there is nothing you can do to change it. In contrast, Burke believes that gender is fluid, but critiques the need for medical intervention. In addition, Raymond's book is primarily theoretical with little empirical grounding, while Burke presents the experiences of people who were victimized. Burke found in her research that under GID, the treatment of youth involved behavior modification and drug therapies, not hormones and surgery.

This brings me to the biggest reason to remove GID as a mental illness. It gives too much control to the medical community. At anytime they could change the rules on us. For example, they could decide to try other types of treatment, like behavior modification and drugs. Or they may remove it altogether for reasons unrelated to anything discussed in Ms. Wilchins' and Ms. O'Hartigan's essays. Psychiatric disorders have come, gone, or been revised throughout different editions of the *DSM.* In the end, basing our lives on GID places us on a very shaky foundation. We need and can develop a more stable foundation for our lives and identities that will also protect us from violence and discrimination. In the end, the choice, as it has been for most of this century, is to let other people define our lives for us or to act in our own interests to define our own lives.

Emilia Lombardi
Akron, Ohio
cherred@en.com

QUEEN ALLYSON CON AND PRO

Dear Jean Marie:

I was stunned when I read in issue #79 of *Transgender* Queen Allyson Allante's comments that, "We (the Imperial Queens and Kings) have been instrumental in the Gay Pride Parade every year. We started the first parade." History was again being rewritten!

Frankly, I was a member of the Christopher Street Liberation Day Committee which organized the 1st Gay Pride Parade. Queen Allison was not a member. Furthermore, I was the only drag person in the parade until we reached 23rd street or thereabouts. Bunny Eisenhower joined me when she saw that I was not going to be arrested for being in the parade. (The early Gay Liberation groups, specifically Jim Owls, did not want me to be in drag at the parade and threatened me with arrest if I showed up in drag.) This was fully documented in *Drag* magazine as well as the gay and international press.

Queen Allyson was not in that parade, at least as queen Allyson. I have checked with Sylvia Rivera (of *STAR*); Bebe Scarpi (*Gay Activist's Alliance*); Bob Kohler (*Gay Liberation Front*) and many others who do not remember her or her Stonewall Car being present in the early years of the movement. Bob Kohler told Bebe that, "it was easier to ignore her than confront the truth."

In fact, I never heard of her or her organization until about 10 years ago when she came by my store to shop. Imperial Queens of New York did not exist until she left the Imperial Court and started her rival organization. The Imperial Court is only 11 years old. They are really fund-raisers for the gay community.

Several years ago I noticed that Allyson was claiming to be the first in everything! I laughed it off for a while. Even when she changed records to reflect that QUEENS (founded by me in 1968-69) was in fact Imperial Queens! Now she is claiming to have organized the parade!

Ridiculous! In my research for possible litigation against this individual, I discovered that she would have been 16 years old at the first parade. (Copies of a report are attached.) An early best-selling book, *The Gay Militants*, by Don Teal, acknowledges Lee G. Brewster's QUEENS, as well as John Francis Hunter's *The Gay Insiders* and Karla Jay and Allen Young's *Out of the Closets: Voices of Gay Liberation*. The 1984 *Gay Yellow Page's* (the national edition) does not list the Imperial Queens and Kings in its movement, political and support organizations section. I doubt that you will find Imperial Queens and Kings listed in earlier issues of *Transgender* either! If she were involved in the early movement, how did everyone overlook her or her organization? God only knows her ego would not have allowed this oversight.

Why do these lies concern me? First, the gay movement has always tried to belittle the importance of drag queens at the Stonewall Inn. They rarely reported this information in the gay press, and at times outright denied that drag queens had anything to do with it. The gay drag queen image was not one that suited their agenda. So, when queen Allyson tells this lie, it reflects on the reality of the queens who were there! Why should I, or anyone else believe anything she says, especially with regards to Stonewall. Secondly, her claims also challenge my credibility, since I, justifiably, have been taking credit for my early work which she has usurped.

Transgender should be more careful when dealing with subjects not specifically within their expertise. Responsible publications always verify the accuracy of statements made by an interviewee. Did you ever consider hiring a "fact checker"? Even the movie, *Stonewall*, had a disclaimer about the truthfulness of the report which we paraphrase, "This is one person's story (fiction implied); they live in their own reality."

Allyson should be proud of the work she is doing presently and leave other people's history alone.

Sincerely
Lee G. Brewster, President
Lee's Mardi Gras Ent., Inc.
Founder, QUEENS
New York, NY
Lbrews7408@aol.com

(Some readers seem confused over the difference between an article and an interview. Transgender *attempts at all times to adhere to the highest journalistic standards. Responsible publications do check facts on articles, which are, on the face of it, factual presentations. No publication, from* Time *to* Sports Illustrated *fact checks interviews. Interviews are, on the other hand, meant to acquaint readers with an individual's personality and opinions, not fact at all. There is always much dispute about how people remember history and events, with no two individuals sharing the same perception of who did what, where and when. Finally, the IFGE operates on too slender a budget to permit employment of a full-time fact checker; however, donations to a fund to hire one will be gratefully accepted. We suspect that interviews with leaders of other NY City gay/bi/les/trans organizations would also be challenged by those who recall who did what, where and when differently.)*

Dear *Transgender:*

Ms. LaMarr's attack on Queen Allyson, President of the Imperial Queens and Kings of New York is distasteful, inaccurate and reeks of envy.

Let's set the record straight. Queen Allyson appears on-camera in the prologue to the movie *Stonewall*. Why? Because the production team researchers contacted the sixth precinct of Manhattan where the Rebellion took place and indeed confirmed that she was very much active and very much arrested on that steamy July evening in 1969. Rather than relying on the "gender grapevine" for historical information, why not consult the record as recorded by the N.Y.P.D.

As an elected official of I.Q.K.N.Y., I am in the dark as to the phrase "reelection of so-called officers." Am I missing something? I was there last January when all the present officers were elected by conventional parliamentary procedures. We even had one of our members who is a lawyer preside over the election.

Lastly, our meetings on the 1st Friday of every month are usually attended by 15-30 members, not 6. Our membership voluntarily organizes 15-20 events a year from dances to symposiums. People don't do this if they are not finding an organization worth their time. Allyson is a strong and witty leader. While Queen Allyson is no "Mother Teresa of genderhood" (who is?), she has been a guide and mentor for hundreds of individuals making their way through the transgender maze, including myself. She welcomes all prospective members — gay, lesbian, straight, bi, admirers, etc.

Let's cut all the back-biting and vindictive behavior in our community. It's tough enough without these pointless distractions. The time has come for all of us to hold hands and take another step forward — corny but true.

Sincerely,
Christy Lynne Belle
I.Q.K.N.Y.

DearEditor:

After reading the letter from a member of the CDI, I must respond both as an official of the Imperial QUEENS & Kings and as a member of the CDI.

IQKNY is involved with many activities of the gay and transgender movement. During these events I have met countless Stonewall Veterans. As I listen to them talking about the days at the Stonewall, the presence of Allyson being there has never been disputed. These witnesses' accounts are credible and reliable. Anyone saying otherwise, their motives should be questioned.

As far as the Imperial Queens and Kings are concerned, IQKNY holds an election every year under the supervision of an attorney. Queen Allyson wins the election fair and square. Other contenders have tried, but without success, myself included. It is true that Queen Allyson is very out-spoken. Nevertheless, the organization is far from a one-woman show. Most directives are decided by the resolutions of the Executive Committee, consisting of no less than 11 people. Activities are handled by several different committees.

The true success of an organization cannot be measured by the number of attendees at certain meetings. IQKNY's attendance is usually 25 to 50. In contrast, there were months CDI has no meetings at all. IQKNY holds a meeting every month, rain, shine or snow. Even if some people want to measure by that standard, we can easily prove them wrong by the evidence of our monthly rental checks to The Center which is based on $2 per person.

Unlike most local social groups for transgendered people which talk primarily about how to pass in public, the imperial Queens and Kings is the graduate school of the transgender community. We deal with real issues such as domestic partner laws, discrimination in the work place, etc. We also have a lot of fun along the way, performing at clubs, holding social parties, leading the parades. IQKNY members are very diversified and distinguished with members from different parts of the country, holding positions like NYC Department of Transportation Commissioner and Family Court Judge.

We transgendered people are still a minority in this society. All groups should work together for our causes, not attack each other, individually or collectively, especially without getting the facts straight. I hope this will clarify some "misunderstanding" among certain wannabees. Remember...the gay and transgender movement was started by outspoken, courageous people, and Queen Allyson was one of them!

Imperially Yours,
Cindy Chan
IKQNY

TG RESEARCH NEEDS YOU!

Dear Editor:

I read with interest Dr. Sheila Kirk's column on Transgender research (#80). I feel the time has come for me to address the transgendered community with a modicum of bitterness and consternation. On the first of Feburary, 1997, I sent out 307 letters outlining my need for assistance on a research project that will directly affect and influence the community. I sought to speak to the children of crossdressers. To date, despite an overwhelming amount of apparently supportive lip-service paid to my research, its topic, the potential influences of outcome and the general sense of research importance in, for and by the transgender community, I have amassed a total of 7 (seven) subjects. This

leads me to one of four conclusions: 1) There are very few members of the TG community who have children, 2) There are very few in the community who have told their children, 3) There are a significant number who have told, but they are potentially ashamed, embarrassed, or disappointed with the outcome of the telling, or 4) There is a substantial number who have told, but they don't give a damn about helping the community; they don't care about sharing their experience in order to facilitate someone else's journey; or they are not interested in supporting the better understanding of the dynamics that make up one vital part of the transgendered community—the family. I sincerely hope it is not the latter.

The fact that I received, in response to my Call for Assistance, such nearly unanimous support:

"Interesting and much needed research," "an extremely worthwhile project," "I'd be pleased to pass along the information," and "it's about time" led me to imagine a true experimental project was possible. I posited to my research chair that I could get as many as one hundred children (as subjects) to participate. Now, it seems, I am struggling to get a population of twenty. In all honesty, however, some of the responses have not been supportive: the unfounded presumption that children of TVs and TSs are inherently, though not quantifiably, different, from Tri-Ess; and the institutional policy of not telling the children at any stage by the Institute for Gender Study and Treatment, for example.

The truth of the matter seems to be that even when parents tell their children about their crossdressing behavior, they are closeted about the telling. This is perhaps for fear of social recrimination stemming from the inclusion of innocent children in what society may see as deviant or certainly variant behavior. If there is a sense of abnormality or deviance to our crossdressing behavior and we tell our children, will we be doubly condemned for the inclusion of our children in our social pathology?

There are a couple of predictions that can be made with reasonable certainty if this and other research for the transgendered community is not supported. First, the research that is done will be flawed by small numbers of participants and incomplete data. Second, the research that is being done will continue to be done in very alternative settings which, while worthwhile and potentially effective, do not hold the strength of the research done by the more mainstream institutions. And third, the number of research projects that are being undertaken will dwindle away. As support for each project fails to materialize, the researchers will seek other subjects, other issues, other populations, and the transgendered community will be the big loser because we will know no more then than we do now. The answers to the questions raised by transvestites, transgenderists, and transsexuals and the important people in their lives are out there, attainable and valuable. Apathy by the community will only stymie the search and require us to continue to act and react from anecdotes and intuition provided from within. The populace at large will suffer as well, as they will never fully understand what the transgendered community is all about.

I have experienced much the same dynamic in discussion about two courses I proposed to and won approval for by the curriculuum bodies at two separate gay institutes. Both the Institute for Gay and Lesbian Education in Los Angeles (IGLE) and the Harvey Milk Institute in San Francisco (HMI) reluctantly included the course, "Transgenderism and Society" in their recent offerings. Both had to be convinced that such a course would be useful to the queer community, appropriate for those professionals working in and with that community, and supported by the trans-community. Similarly, both fell victim to rampant apathy and were cancelled due to lack of interest. I don't know if it means anything, but the course at IGLE had one person sign up for it and the one at Harvey Milk had none. Upon sharing the news that both these courses were included in the curriculuum of their respective institutions, I got much the same verbal pat-on-the-back as I did with my research. Predictably, now, I got the same response as well.

Once again I must voice my displeasure and disillusionment at the chasm of difference between what I have been told and what I have received in the mail. If you support a transgender group that has not included this call for research assistance in its newsletter please suggest that they join the verbal, if not the physical support of this research. If you support one of those organizations that has failed or refused to support it because of their own agenda, and you feel it is at odds with your own, please take action. If you live in an area where continuing education for the gay and lesbian community is available, support it. If your support group has a speakers' bureau, join it.

Transgender is alone in the print media in its universal support of research for, of, and by the transgendered community. I urge you to support any and all research, and the *Transgender*.

(Ask yourself: If not here, where? If not now, when? If not me, who?)

Stacy M. Clement, MA
Via e-mail

Research Projects

Being Conducted by
Sheila Kirk, MD

The Adolescent Teenage Study

Young males ages 12-19 years who crossdress could be candidates for a longitudinal study examining their transgender feelings and behavior. It is necessary that either a parent, guardian or counselor or both give permission for inclusion in the study for without express allowance nothing can be exchanged with that young person. In this study, Dr. Kirk makes inquiry into the life and habits, the goals and experiences, of this young person trying not to influence, but being available to advise patients and the professional when asked for information.

Every Transgendered person was a teenager and every one of us had the "burden" of being a crossdresser as well. If you know of a teenager who is able to participate in this valuable research project, please contact Dr. Kirk for more details.

A Call for TG-Friendly Attorneys

There are many instances when transgendered individuals desperately need legal advice and assistance to help them past marital, workplace and financial hurdles. Dr. Kirk is making an effort to locate and identify attorneys who are empathetic and willing to represent members of our community. Any in our community who knows of such lawyers are urged to send name, address and phone number to Dr. Kirk. Those that have shown their value and expertise in legal matters are very important to us all.

Male-to-Female Postoperative Survey

Sheila Kirk, M.D., has originated a detailed survey for Male-to-Female Transsexuals who are postoperative six months or more. The information sought is most important in order that both the professional community and the transsexual community learn about areas of experience in the life of the postoperative person—areas that heretofore have not been studied appropriately or to any extent. Medical reports will be meaningful because of this research. All post-operative M-F individuals are urged to contact Dr. Kirk for information with a willingness to participate.

A Call for Health Care Professionals

To help improve the quality of transgendered care, Dr. Kirk maintains a nation-wide referral list of health care professionals (physicians—family practice, internists, endocrinologists; surgeons—in all specialties of surgical care; mental health providers—social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists) who demonstrate a high level of knowledge, expertise and commitment.

If you know of such a health care professional, please send their name and area of special care to Dr. Kirk. It is important that you get their permission for their referral.

Contact Dr. Kirk by mail, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope to participate in this project or with specific questions regarding your medical concerns.

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Fax: (412) 781-1096
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LAST WORDS

Do NO HARM!

Alison Laing

The words, "Do no harm," are included in the Hippocratic oath, the ethical code of the medical profession, that doctors traditionally take when they receive their diplomas. What a beautiful concept for those who have dedicated their lives to the healing and caring of others. While "do no harm" is an incredibly simple and noble principle, it is not always easy to decide the best course of action for a given person. But, whatever the case, physicians ideally approach their profession with no intent to cause harm to their clients or to anyone else who may be involved in the treatment process.

Those who are in the field of law enforcement must often decide when to use potentially harmful action to restrain a violent and threatening offender. But in this case, harmful action may be necessary as the offender is essentially an "enemy" often threatening to do harm to others.

There are those in this world who can be threatening to transgendered persons and are quite ready to do us harm. One could therefore develop a rationale that would suggest that we, especially in self defense, are justified if we do them harm. (Note, these are people who are in fact "enemies.")

However, one may find that there are people and organizations with whom we simply disagree, or who have a different philosophy of life, or who do not live up to our expectations. While it is appropriate to express why you disagree with their point of view, or how they conduct their business or activities, it is counter-productive to attack them to the point of doing even "verbal" harm. Thoughtful people do not ever feel that they can justify attacking others verbally, and especially in public print, for being different, or holding different opinions, or not living up to preconceived expectations.

When the object of the attack is not only not an enemy, but an ally in the same fragile community, such attacks are doubly uncalled for and damaging. When the attacks are included in community publications, often issued by legitimate non-profit (tax dollar supported) organizations, they are doubly unfair and inappropriate.

IFGE and our publication, *Transgender Tapestry*, also hold to the principle of "do no harm." We have pledged not to attack or vilify other organizations, their leaders, or any member of this community. Even when attacked by others, or disappointed in their philosophy, deeds or words, we will publish "no harm" about anyone or any group, as long as the offending act or statement was not criminal, or unless we have irrefutable information that the person or organization in question is threatening to do or doing harm to others.

We ask all responsible TG organizations, and their publication editors, to subscribe to and to adopt this principle of "doing no harm" by refusing to publish offensive or injurious accusations regarding others in the TG community. We ask those in the community who are tired of the incessant muckraking, yellow journalism, and trouble-making insinuations to let the leaders and the editors of those offending publications know their feelings. Such injurious actions, rather than helping, prevent this community from maturing to a status that will enable us to achieve our common goals. If anyone really has a legitimate problem with another group or its leaders, or their particular way of doing business, it may be best to call or write them directly first, to get their point of view before writing an intemperate, accusatory or angry letter to the editor of their, or your own, publication. Let us all try to behave in a more civilized fashion.

Several years ago, Tri-Ess (the national organization for heterosexual crossdressers) asked all of the attendees at their national conference to take the following pledge:

To speak no evil about any gender gifted colleague or organization.

To help improve communications among my gender=gifted brothers and sisters.

To give freely of my talents in supporting my chapter, Tri-Ess National and the IFGE.

To contribute financially to such community building joint ventures as the National Association of Social Workers presentation, efforts that build up Tri-Ess and the gender community.

To reach out in friendship and love to at least one TG or family in need.

I took it. I especially like the first and second points. You may have to change a few words to make it fit your circumstances and concerns, but the principles are there and IFGE is essentially following it. Wouldn't you?

(Alison Laing is Executive Director of IFGE.)

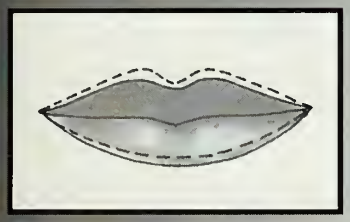
Do You Need Help? Are You Confused??

Finally! Answers to any questions you have about All areas of Crossdressing !!

How do I cover my Beard Shadow ?? What are my correct make-up colors ? How do I learn to apply all of this ??

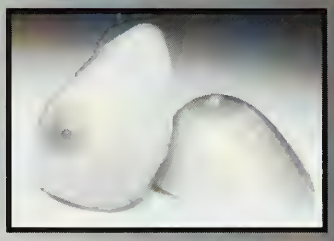
What are the correct shades to use for my eye shape ?? How do I correct my eyebrows if I don't want to tweeze them ??

Being a person of large body type or being overweight has nothing to do with looking great and being passable (as seen in this photo)



What is the correct shape for my lips ??

I can help you with All of your questions !!

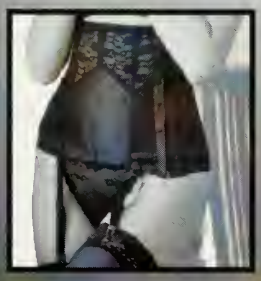


What size and type of breast forms are best for my chest and body type ??

What wig color, style, and length is best for my face shape and body type ??

Why wait any longer! Call me now. You'll be happy you did.

Should I use a corset, Waist Slimmer, or a modified corset to create a feminine figure ??



Should I wear high heels or low heels ? What is my correct shoe size ??

Here's your opportunity to speak personally, discreetly, and anonymously with the premier Female Feminine Image Consultant in the country; no matter where you live! I have six years experience, the largest Feminine Image Transformation studio in the country, and I have done thousands of make-overs. Here are some more frequently asked questions and categories: Body padding (where do I put it), Clothing (one piece or 2 piece outfit - what is the correct clothing style & size for my body type and weight ?) Why am I doing this? Am I gay? Should I tell my wife / girlfriend? Am I a transsexual? How do I meet other cross-dressers? and so many more questions. If you have ever needed a Sensitive, Understanding, Caring Friend to express your feelings to and answer your questions about crossdressing, I can help as a friend or counselor. I can also help you if you are having feelings of guilt. All you have to do is pick up the phone and Call Now. HAVE PEN AND PAPER READY BEFORE CALLING.

Call Now For Answers To All of Your Questions! (215) 938-5115

Toronto '98

Crossing Borders

IFGE 12th Annual Convention
March 24-29, 1998
Hosted By Xpressions
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

TORONTO COLONY HOTEL
DOWNTOWN CITY HALL